

# THE WAYNE HERALD

WAYNE, NEBRASKA 68787, MONDAY, JUNE 28, 1976  
ONE HUNDREDTH YEAR NUMBER ONE HUNDRED

## WAYNE COUNTY SOUVENIR EDITION



Painted by Wayne High art students Doug Pierson and Karen Nolte. Ted Blenderman, instructor.

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Anniversary Of  
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# The Way We Were ... 1876

Reproduction of Wayne County's First Newspaper

## Wayne County Review.

VOL. I. LA PORTE, WAYNE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1876. No. 33.

Wayne Co. Review.

LOCAL ITEMS

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THE RESULT IN DAKOTA OCCUPY.

Almost a Unanimous Vote in Favor of R. R. Bonds.

Dr. E. W. Wilson, M. D., Eclectic Physician.

Dr. E. W. Wilson, M. D., Eclectic Physician.

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LA PORTE NEBRASKA

# Bicentennial Edition Is Special for Herald

Volume 100—number 100! It's a happy coincidence that the 100th issue of the 100th year of this newspaper falls on the date of this combined Bicentennial and 100th Birthday issue of the Wayne Herald.

Editor Jim Strayer chronicles below the evolution of this special issue and lists those people responsible for its production.

Elsewhere in the issue the history of the Newspaper is written. We believe the Herald's Wayne's oldest continuing business; started 100 years ago as the Wayne County Review.

You probably ought to save this special issue. A "Souvenir Edition" supplement to the Nebraska Democrat (an early Wayne newspaper) of July 2, 1914 recently sold at a farm auction for \$50. Additional proof of the value of a newspaper?

The cover of that 1914 edition says in part "Wayne County is one of the most fertile and productive and promising sections of the Middle West, with qualities of citizenship unsurpassed anywhere..." These words are certainly as true today as they were in 1914.

What of the next 100 years of this newspaper and of newspapers in general in America?

Current studies show that circulations of the metropolitan daily papers in America are falling. These same studies show that community newspaper circulation is growing.

At the same time there is widespread concern regarding the rapidly growing functional illiteracy in this country. Many college freshmen are unable to spell simple words or write an effective sentence.

Many believe there is a correlation between declining daily newspaper circulation and the declining literacy.

Why then do community newspapers continue to grow? There seem to be several factors: community schools can do a better job of teaching because they are without many of the problems of the large cities; the population is shifting to smaller communities; and foremost, community newspapers are the primary vehicle that cover and report the news of the community.

The national population has a variety of media available to turn to for national and international news. The local newspaper however still serves best the community and growing readership attests to the fact.

Freedom of the press has never been under such strain and attack from many sides as it is today. Part of the problem lies with the industry itself. Too many editors, writers and publishers feel that press freedom is a personal possession and right. They fail to understand that press freedom has meaning only in as far as it serves the people and THEIR right to know what is happening in the courts and government.

And freedom of the press is but a part of the total picture of journalism. A more important word in this industry is "responsibility." Responsibility for honesty, responsibility for truth, and responsibility for fair play.

The bouquets for help in this special edition would not all be delivered if we failed to thank the two most important groups who contribute to each issue of the Wayne Herald: the advertisers and subscribers. Without you there would be no Wayne Herald; there would be no 100th Anniversary. We thank you, we salute you. We will do our best to deserve your continued support.—  
Alan Cramer, publisher.

On behalf of the staff of The Wayne Herald, I would like to take this opportunity to present our special contribution to the celebration of the Bicentennial in Wayne County.

The Wayne Herald, of course, has been active in providing coverage of the many Bicentennial events which have taken place in the area over the past 18 months or so. We hope that this special souvenir edition of The Wayne Herald, which takes the place of our regular June 28 issue, will be one which residents of Wayne County will keep and pass along to their children.

Social editor LaVon Beckman is responsible for compiling the bulk of the stories which appear in this edition. Thanks go to Mrs. Sandra Breikreutz, Mrs. Betty Hepburn, Mrs. Pat Oswald, Mrs. Erwin Ulrich and Mrs. Edward Fork, for the contributions which they made.

In addition to Bob Bartlett and myself, Teri Bigelow, an aspiring young journalist, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Bigelow of Wayne, also had a hand in producing the edition.

Teri is home in Wayne for summer vacation from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she will begin her sophomore year as a journalism major in the fall.

Special thanks go to Wayne photographer Doug Lyman who allowed us the use of his collection of many photographs of early Wayne County.

And of course, all of those people who contributed information regarding Wayne County's past are also deserving of our thanks.

Articles are only part of a publication. Just as important is the advertising which makes the edition possible. Wayne Herald business manager Jim Marsh and ad salesman Dan Vodvarka and Bill Carlson were responsible for handling that aspect of the souvenir edition, which would not have been possible without the support of the many Wayne County businessmen whose advertisements are published within.

The third group of people necessary for any publication are the behind-the-scenes folks, the "back shop." Without their skills in composition and printing, the efforts of news and advertising staff members would not appear. Wayne Herald production staff members who contributed to this special edition are Ray Murray, Dave Diediker, Cathy Hansen, Jane Sharer, Jill Kenny, Kathy Bressler, Jeanne Ring, Vince Jenness, Alyce Bargholz, Marcia Leonard, Keith Habrock, Mark Cramer, Kevin Victor, Mel Baumgardner and Warren Price.

Finally, thanks go to all the residents of Wayne County, past and present. The people who have lived here are the ones responsible for the history of the county; we can merely retell it. — Jim Strayer, News Editor.



# County, City Named After General

Both Wayne County and the City of Wayne are namesakes of a fiery hero of the American Revolutionary War.

Described as a handsome, dark haired man with penetrating brown eyes and an aquiline nose, Anthony Wayne was captured by the spirit of the Revolution and his flamboyant leadership earned him the rank of general and the nickname "Mad" Anthony Wayne.

Wayne was born to parents of English ancestry on Jan. 1, 1745, in Waynesboro, Penn. At the age of 16 he attended a private academy in Philadelphia, and was reported to be more proficient in feats of mock warfare than in academic endeavors.

Two years after Wayne left the academy he took a job as a surveyor. A Philadelphia land company sent him to supervise the surveying and settlement of land in Nova Scotia in 1765. Soon after this venture failed, he returned to Pennsylvania where he took Mary Penrose as his bride. They settled on his father's estate and managed his father's tannery.

Preceding the revolutionary

period, Wayne was a leader of the Whig Party and a member of the colonial legislature. When war broke out in 1775, he recruited the 4th Pennsylvania regiment and later protected the retreat of this force back to Fort Ticonderoga.

Wayne led a division at Brandywine, commanded at Germantown and took part in the siege of Yorktown. In 1777 he was appointed to the rank of brigadier general. After his daring attack and recapture of Stony Point in 1779, Congress awarded him a medal. His bravery and ambition allowed him to be made a brevet major general on Oct. 10, 1783. Gen. Wayne retired from active service one year later.

After retirement, Wayne spent much of his time engaged in civil pursuits until his death on Dec. 15, 1796. His character is remembered by a once popular saying, "where Wayne went there was a fight always; that was his business." Gen. Wayne also possessed a distrust in people. He believed that a man could not even depend upon himself.



WAYNE COUNTY  
WAS NAMED FOR  
"MAD" ANTHONY  
WAYNE

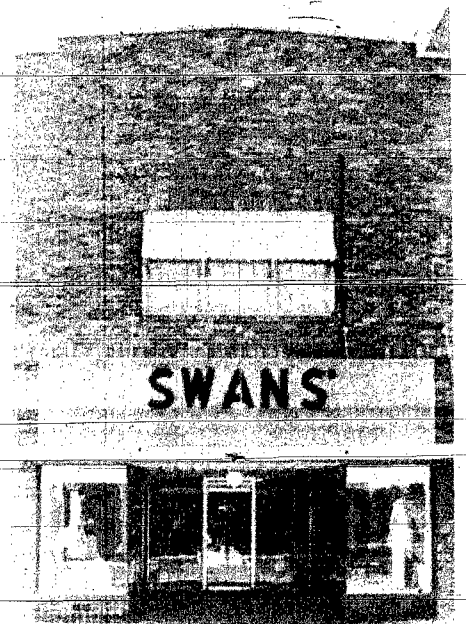
AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY GENERAL



#### OLD BUILDING

Back in the Roaring Twenties Mrs. Al Swan went into business in this wooden frame building, her main items of apparel at that time were Ladies millinery and ladies ready to wear.

As the town grew and her business increased she needed more space, in 1932 the wooden frame building was replaced with a modern brick building, as you see it today.



#### THE NEW BUILDING

This building was built in 1932 and Mrs. Swan continued with her ladies ready to wear, in 1936 Mr. Al Swan expanded the business even more by putting in a Mens ready to wear in 1/2 of the present building, in 1952 Mr. Swan and Robert McLean opened a men's store at 218 Main St. After this move by Mr. Swan the ladies shop became Swans' Apparel for Women, Mr. and Mrs. Swan being partners in the store.

In 1962, Troy C. Vaught purchased 1/2 interest in the Swans' ladies store and was manager until 1975 at which time Troy Vaught purchased the remaining 1/2 of the Ladies Swan shop.

At this time Troy C. Vaught is the sole owner of Swans' Ladies Apparel Store.



Troy Vaught

1976



## County Settled

# Illinois Pioneers First to Settle Here

Nebraska was admitted to the union in 1867, but there aren't any records of white men in Wayne County prior to 1869.

However, during 1869, a number of families moved from Lee County Ill. and settled in the southeastern part of the country. They were drawn to this western country (then marked on school maps as part of the "Great American Desert") by Willard Graves, who is said to have owned 40 sections of land in Dixon, Dakota, Wayne and Cuming Counties.

In this first group were the families of C.E. Hunter, Harrison Allen, A.D. Allen, Nathaniel Allen, Isaac Miner, Nathaniel Miner, Wilson E. Durrin, Wesley Mahoffam, Abner Fletcher, and Capt. B.F. Whitten. With them came Pitt Hines, Martin Hines and the Barto and Fenton families, all of whom settled in the south part of Dixon County. R.B. Crawford arrived in the fall of the year. He and his wife had been teaching school previously in Dakota County. John McGuire took his homestead in the south part of the county the same year.

In the spring of 1870, 13 more families arrived from Lee and DeKalb Counties in Illinois, also having been induced to come by Willard Graves. These were the families of O.G. Crane, George Hunter, Enoch Hunter, Al S. Miner, William Agler, Isaac O. Richardson, Matthew B. Richardson, George Scott, Alexander Scott and Benjamin Harmon. The Gass, Steinbrook and Drummond families came with them but only remained during the first season. John T. Bressler arrived from Pennsylvania in

April of 1870.

According to one of the pioneers, it was necessary at that time to leave the railroad at Fremont and journey to West Point in an open wagon which carried mail. Wisner had not been established, but nearly all

the homestead land in Cuming County had been taken.

At that time there were no towns in Wayne County. The county was boundless prairie, with fires sweeping over the country each fall, destroying all vegetation. Each settler found it

necessary to plow a fire guard several furrows wide around his shanty. If a prairie fire was sited, the usual defense was to set a "back fire."

Frame shanties and dugouts were the earliest dwellings. Some settlers dug caves in the

side of the hills with coverings of slough grass, sod or boards. But, lumber was scarce and had to be hauled several miles from sawmills along the Missouri River.

Winter storms were described as having "great fury," because there weren't any trees to break the storm's force. The principal fuel was slough grass and corn. Some breaking of the soil was done in the season of 1870 and a fair crop of sod corn was raised, which was used mainly for fuel.

The county was organized by a proclamation of Governor David Butler in the fall of 1870. The first county meeting for the purposes of organization is said to have been held on Sept. 26, 1870 in the house on the George Scott homestead.

Wilson E. Durrin, Isaac O. Miner and Mark Sperry were the commissioners; C.E. Hunter, clerk; B.F. Whitten was named treasurer but did not qualify, and George Scott was appointed; Abner Fletcher, county judge; R.B. Crawford, county superintendent; A.D. Allen, sheriff; W.G. Vroman, surveyor, and Nathaniel Allen, coroner.

The boundaries of the county were defined and its organization legalized by the state government on March 4, 1871. The population of the county is estimated to have been 50 to 60 in 1870.



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**MAIN STREET** Carroll in 1900. The first general store in Carroll, Woods, Wolf and Berry, is pictured as the third building on the right. At the right of the photo stands the original First Methodist Church, built in 1892. The old frame schoolhouse, background center, offered classes for high school and grade school students. Also visible in the picture are the town's board sidewalks and dirt streets, complete with horse and buggy.

# Carroll Picked Over Manning

By Mrs. Ed Fork

Carroll, like so many other towns in the late 1800's, originated with the "coming of the railroad."

Keeping with the custom of establishing towns every 10 to 15 miles apart, E.W. Winter, general manager of the railroad, chose his townsite nine miles west and three north of Wayne.

He named the site Carroll, after Charles Carroll of Carrolltown, Md., a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Manning was also favored by many as a name for the town. J.R. Manning was a state senator and stock raiser.

The railroad company built the first building in the town, a frame depot, and a quarter section of land, half the present site, was platted. Streets were laid out in October of 1886.

Except for a small depot, settlers found only rolling hills and prairie land when they made their way to the townsite. Gus Wendt, who came to Carroll from Emerson in November of 1886, as the first section foreman for the new railroad line, built the first house and moved his family to Carroll in March of 1887, the first family in the new town. Gus Wendt Jr. was the first child born in Carroll.

The Wendt home has since undergone a complete renovation and is now occupied by the Arthur Cook family.

Frank and John Berry established a general store, the first in Carroll, in 1886, and in April of 1887, built a small frame store a block south of the depot. For a time, the family lived in the store building. T.M. Woods, who had come from Pennsylvania in

1885, and Henry Wolf joined the company which was then known as Woods, Wolf and Berry Bros. The post office was in connection. Frank Berry built a residence on the corner west of the store.

The same year, Tom Berry, brother of the store men, managed the Peavy Elevator and Lumber Yard, which was located across the street east of the store. John Markely was agent for the Peavy company for a time and R.R. Smith was later in charge.

The Yaryans left the new settlement in December of 1886 and went to Iowa. They returned in the fall of 1888 and built a frame hotel across the street southwest of the store.

Another store was built a block south of the first one. Charles Andrews started a drug

store. W.B. Wineland has the first shoe shop and Henry Krebs was the first blacksmith.

Charles Cox was Carroll's first editor. He also operated a cafe and his family lived upstairs.

M.S. Merrill established the first bank in 1892, located a block and a half south of the depot.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church was built in 1899 and renovated in the 1940's. The Catholic Church was built at the southeast edge of town in 1904, and the Methodist and Baptist Churches were built in 1912 and 1913 respectively. Following the disbanding of the Baptist congregation, the Catholic congregation bought the church building in 1952. The structure was sold to the Hiscox-Schumacher-Johnson Funeral Home in 1973 when the Catholic congregation dissolved.

Dr. C.E. Northrop was Carroll's first doctor. He came in 1891. Dr. W.A. Love began practicing in Carroll in 1894.

The Carroll Cemetery Association was organized in 1887. G.W. Yaryan planted elms around the plot and Mrs. Yaryan named the cemetery Elmwood. An infant son of the Frank Berrys was the first to die in the new village. The second was a child of Frank Taylor. A severe epidemic of whooping cough in 1888-89 resulted in many deaths.

Carroll library was promoted by A.P. Childs, editor, and a national magazine library was formed in 1903.

The water system was installed in 1910, and the village bought the private light plant in March of 1918.

According to Perry Jarvis,



**THE SMALL** frame store of Woods, Wolf and Berry Bros. was the first general store in Carroll. The building, pictured here in 1887, was located a block south of

the depot. Seated in the buggy, at right, is T. M. Woods. Mr. Wolf is holding the horse and Mr. Berry is standing at the door. Standing on top of the building, at right, is Claude Hancock.

# Carroll First To Pave Street



THE STOCK PAVILION, built at the north edge of Carroll in 1907, was converted into a community hall in 1937. The original town hall, built in 1925, was leveled by a tornado.

who now resides in Laurel, Carroll was the first town in the area to pave its Main street in 1921. Other streets were gravelled in 1937.

A stock pavilion, built at the north edge of Carroll in 1907, was converted into a community hall in 1937. A tornado leveled the other townhall, built in 1925.

Carroll city park was established in 1933 on land given to the village by the Fullerton Lumber Co. and by purchase. The Lions Club and the Woman's Club promoted the park.

C.H. Gobleigh and other inhabitants of the village filed with the county board a petition to incorporate on Aug. 27, 1892. As no objections were filed, the board ordered Carroll incorpo-

ated on Sept. 8, 1892. C.H. Gobleigh, C.M. Andrews, T.W. Shirts, Richard Birks and J.H. Beach were appointed trustees.

The Carroll vicinity was first served with a small frame schoolhouse which stood at the northwest edge of the present town site. When the railroad went through, the building was located on the right-of-way and was moved to the C.E. Jones property.

J.R. Manning, Joe Hancock and I.W. Steele were members of the school board in 1886. The frame was added to in 1894. A frame was built in 1900 and the institution offered classes for high school and grade school students.

The present brick structure was put up in 1914. Robert H.

Hughes of Red Oak had the contract for \$19,000. Classes for students through grade 12 were held there until 1958 when high school students began attending classes at Wayne. The school system was reorganized and now only kindergarten through fourth grade students attend classes in the Carroll school.

Longtime residents of the Carroll community include J.C. Woods, who lives northwest of Carroll in the same section his father, Tom Woods, homesteaded.

Mrs. Ann Roberts and Mr. and Mrs. Ellery Pearson, who still reside in Carroll, remember the years 1916 to 1920 as peak years for the town. At that time there were five grocery stores, a theater, two banks, two barber shops, a butcher shop, two doctors, a newspaper, a bakery, drug store, hotel, two restaurants, two hardware stores, three grain elevators, a hat shop, and several gas pumps and cream stations. Six trains came through town each day.

At one time, Carroll's population was about 525.

Mrs. J.C. Woods recalls how sidewalks were built about three feet above the ground to provide

easy access for loading wagons.

Dedicated residents and an active rural community are the main reasons for Carroll's existence.

In the early 1950's, a large auditorium was built for community activities. The Carroll Woman's Club organized in 1925 and the Carroll city park was established in 1933.

Since 1965, many new buildings have been added to the town, including a welding shop, fire station, post office, repair shop, filling station, automobile repair shop, steakhouse and five new homes, with one home currently under construction.

The town Saddle Club, which organized in 1962, has an arena at the south edge of town and a membership of about 35 families.

In 1976, Carroll's population is about 250.



CARROLL'S BASEBALL TEAM, pictured here in 1905, included, bottom row from left, Ed Evans, George McVay and Warren Claussen; center row from left, Jim (Elmer) Jones, Louis Tiff, Earl Taylor and Luther Evans, and back row from left, Henry Trautwein, Louis Larsen, Dr. A. Texley and Charles Edwards.

## Longtime Residents

Recall 1916 to 1920 as Booming Years for Carroll Community

# Puls First to Hoskins

By Mrs. Erwin Ulrich  
Hoskins is a progressive community with a population of about 300, located about 25 miles southwest of Wayne.

The townsite was first called Donop, a name brought over by Franz Puls from a town in Germany. Puls arrived from Germany in 1869 and set up the first post office in his home in Donop, about two miles southwest of the present site of Hoskins. The government furnished boxes for individual families and mail was carried on foot from Stanton to Hoskins.

In 1881, when the railroad extended from Wayne to Norfolk, the town's name was changed to Hoskins. Both the town and precinct were named after Clarissa Hoskins, a pioneer grain dealer who lived in Sioux City and was a member of the land company which bought land and established towns where railroads were being built.

Peter Brummels fired Engine No. 43 on the first trip to Sioux City in 1882, moving slowly over the newly laid track. About 125 men worked to lay the tracks, forming their own small community west of Hoskins.

Today, no trains run through Hoskins. Heavy rains washed out the tracks in 1969. The tracks were taken up in 1971 and the land re sold in 1972 and 1973.

David Rees became the first postmaster in the new town of

Hoskins, and he and William Sonneken established the first stores handling general merchandise. John Crosby established the first bank.

The first industry that Hoskins boasted of was Frank Puls' brickmaking business. Puls, who used 32,000 bricks to build his own house in 1882, used clay he found on the banks of Springbranch Creek which ran through his farm.

Puls' house still stands southwest of Hoskins and a great grandson and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Walker, live there now.

During Hoskins' formative years, school was held in one of the family homes. In 1878, a schoolhouse was built west of Hoskins and organized into District 3. David Patterson was the first teacher. The school was later enlarged and modernized.

It wasn't until the 1920's that a high school opened its doors in Hoskins. The high school was closed in 1960 and students today attend classes at Winside or Norfolk.

At a meeting on Jan. 12, 1899, Jno Swanson, W.J. Weatherholt, Peter Kautz, R.G. Rohrke and Louis Ziemer were appointed to a committee to look into the matter of Hoskins being incorporated into a village.

Incorporation took place on Feb. 7, 1899, and Weatherholt,

Rohrke, Ziemer, Kautz and John Shannon were appointed trustees until the April election.

At a meeting Feb. 25, 1899, the town committee elected William Zutz village clerk; C.F. Lenz, treasurer; A.T. Waddell, village marshal, and Ludwig Ziemer, justice of the peace.

The first election in the village was April 1, 1899. R.G. Rohrke and A.T. Waddell were the clerks and John Donner, George Westerholt and Ludwig Ziemer

were the judges for the election. The first officers were W.J. Weatherholt, chairman; R.G. Rohrke, village clerk; Carl F. Lutz, village treasurer; A.T. Waddell, marshal and street commissioner, and William Zutz, John Shannon, Peter Kautz and Louis Ziemer, trustees.

The village of Hoskins was now on the road to progress. Laws were passed to help govern the village, including a motion in 1899 to tax street

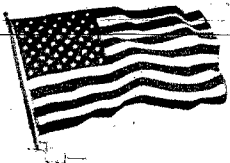
venders or peddlers. A special meeting was called on June 4, 1900 to consider building a jail. On June 15, a bid was accepted and a jail, which has since been moved out of town, was constructed.

The water works system was completed in Hoskins in June of 1921. The first light plant in Hoskins, 1916, was run by Fred Miller. Prior to that time, gas lamps were used to light the town.



HOSKINS Main Street in 1912 was made impassable for horses and carriages when a snowstorm struck the area. Residents pitched in to scoop paths through the snow-packed streets.

## These Progressive Hoskins Merchants Say: HAPPY BIRTHDAY U.S.A.



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Bill Willers — George Langenberg, Sr.

Since 1960

### HOSKINS GROCERY

OWNED BY

David & Clara Kaup

Since 1976

### DANNY'S BAR

OWNED BY

Danny Plantenberg

Since 1972



W.R. McFarland was hired as village attorney in 1913 and H.E. Siman in 1936. During that year, a fire engulfed the lumber yard and threatened the entire town. Wet blankets were placed on the adjoining roofs of buildings to keep the fire from spreading.

The Farmers State Bank closed its doors in 1931. In 1943 the Hoskins State Bank changed to the Hoskins Cooperative Credit Association and is now known as the Commercial State Bank.

Sports were important to the village's residents. In the 1930's the town baseball team went to the state tournaments. Hoskins played in the Big 10 league, which included Hoskins, Winside, Wayne, Stanton, Pilger, Laurel, Coleridge, Wakefield, Randolph and Dixon.

Players were Lefty John, Vernon Behmer, Clarence John, Melvin Sand, Maurice Phillips, Dick Fry, Walter Kennedy, Alton Fuhrman, Alvin Splittgerber, Allen Bruse and Harry Drevesen. The team disbanded during the war years.

In 1935 the Hoskins Kittenball Association was formed, and in 1957 another softball team was formed. Adolph Bruggeman donated land south of town for the playing field. The team broke up in 1965.

The first fire truck was purchased in 1946 through donations, and was housed in the Voss Implement Shop until a firehouse was located behind the Hoskins Grocery, purchased from Simon Strate for \$700.

A rural fire district was organized on Aug. 4, 1950. E.J. Scheurich was elected president; Ivor Anderson, vice president, and Ezra Jochens, secretary treasurer. Directors were Henry Deck and George Langenberg.

The present fire hall was built in 1962. An ambulance, manned

by volunteer firemen, was purchased in 1964 from a donation by Edwin Kollath. A tanker truck was purchased in 1966, and in 1967 the town bought a tank and pump. Herma Opfer has served as fire chief since 1952.

In 1963, J.E. Pingel sold his private telephone exchange to the Pierce Telephone Co. The village of Hoskins granted the county the right to erect, maintain and operate a general telephone system within the village and rural community.

Between 1910 and 1920, Hoskins had two banks, a barber shop, three general merchandise

stores, a hotel, butcher shop, meat market, drug store, two doctors, two lumberyards, two saloons, city hall, depot, dray lines, post office, three churches, a school, two garages, two implement dealers, two cafes, two cream stations, a millinery shop and a newspaper, called the Hoskins Headlight.

On June 5, 1878, 13 charter members organized the Hoskins Evangelical Church. The first church was built in 1882, and the first officials were Frederic Blaes, Frederick Schroeder, August Rokér, Frank Falk, Karl Maas and Carl Falk.

The Peace Reformed Church

was organized in 1881. Early meetings were held in homes, and in 1882 a church building was erected on property donated by Ernest Behmer. The first pastor, the Rev. Otto Kuhn, served from 1881 to 1892. The first officers of the church were Franz Puls, Frederic Strate, Louis Ziemer and Behmer.

The Hoskins Methodist Church was established in 1883. The church was torn down in 1920.

Lutheran services were first conducted in Hoskins in the fall of 1886 by the Rev. M. Panchow of Norfolk. On Dec. 6, 1886 a meeting was held in the William Zutz home and the Trinity

Lutheran Church was organized. The first officers of the congregation were William Zutz and John Donner. Elders were Gustav Miller, William Winter and Carl Wendt. Theo Bernhardt was secretary and Martin Redmer served as treasurer.

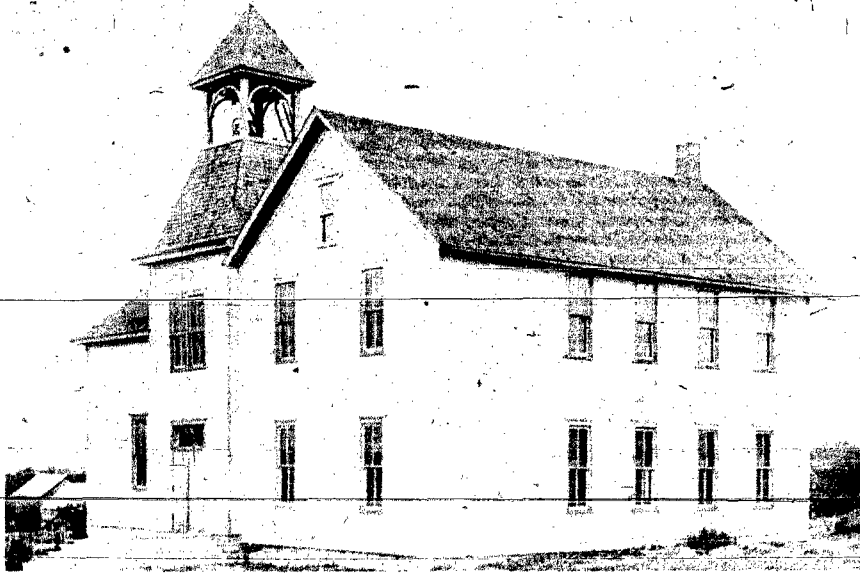
Worship services were held twice a month in the public schoolhouse. On Nov. 13, 1887 the first church building, measuring 22 by 44 feet with a 50-foot tower, was dedicated. The building was damaged by a wind storm in 1933 and was repaired and renovated. Worship services were held there until the summer of 1970 when a new brick structure was dedicated.

Hoskins Zion Lutheran Church, located eight and a half miles northwest of Hoskins, was organized on July 20, 1902. Services were first held in School District 77 and charter members were Albert Noerenberg, William Koepke, August Korling, Herman Weich, Henry Klunder and W.C. Voelckes.

The first pastor to accept a call to Zion Lutheran Church was the Rev. H. Spiering who came in 1907 and served 15 years. During his pastorate a new edifice was erected.

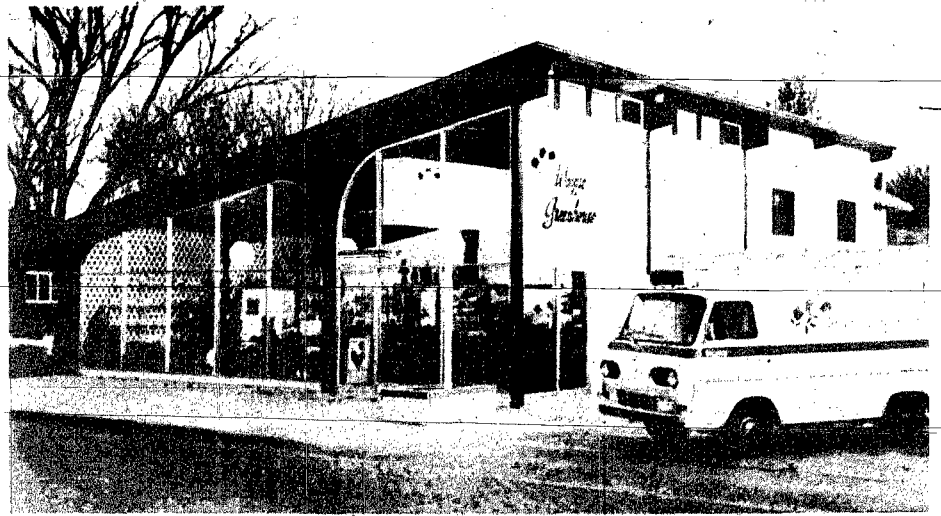
Early settlers were drawn to the area surrounding Hoskins because of the fertile land near Springbranch Creek. Despite the inconveniences, including a two-day trip to Wisner for provisions and a three or four-day journey to West Point to grind flour, the families stayed and their descendants continue to live and work in the community.

Among those first families to come to the Springbranch territory were Ernest Behmer, Frederick Schroeder, Frederic Strate, Frank Puls, Frederick Puls, Frederick Blaes, Frank Folks, Charles Green and John Donner.



PICTURED ABOVE is the Hoskins Public School as it appeared in 1913. During Hoskins' early years, school was held in the homes of the residents. Today, students attend classes at Winside or Norfolk.

## 55 Years — Three Generations of Family Florists At the Same Location



It was in the fall of 1921 that D. Hall came from Kennard and purchased the property on East 10th Street. His vision of building a greenhouse on the site was soon to be fulfilled.

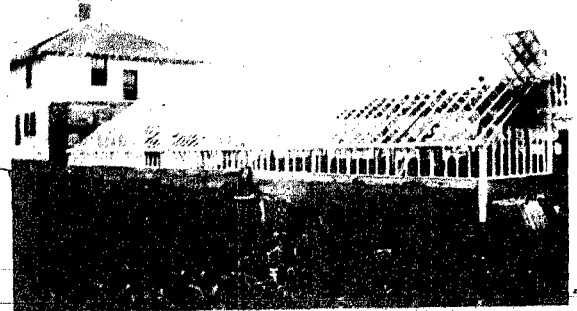
Construction began early in the spring of 1922. By fall the 2 story home and the largest of six greenhouses were finished.

The frame garage and boiler room were also built that year. It has since been replaced by the present cement block building in 1947.

In the ensuing years of 1923-1940 the other greenhouses were erected, all are still in use.

The Flower Shop that was built in 1971 was constructed to replace the building which was built in 1946 by Wilbur D. Hall, who operated the business from 1945-1950.

After his death in 1950, Hattie Hall and son Kent ran the business until her retirement in 1946. The Wayne Greenhouse has since been operated by Kent and Lois Hall.



1921

# Wayne Greenhouse

PHONE 375-1555

KENT AND LOIS HALL

EAST 10TH STREET

# Picnic Is County Tradition



ABOUT 40 contestants lined up for the beard judging contest, one of the highlights during the 1975 Winside's Old Settlers Days. The reunion held each year in Winside since 1918, features a tractor pulling contest, kids and grand

parade, softball tournament, horsehoe pitching tournament, teen dance and water fight, in addition to many more activities.

Wayne County 'Old Settlers' association held its first reunion in 1901 when everyone was invited to take the day off for a picnic. A.G. Mettlen was president of the association and Dr. R.B. Crawford was secretary.

Families from all parts of the county drove to Bressler Grove one mile north and one west of Wayne. A platform had been erected and an organ brought out from Wayne. Relaxing in the shade, the group heard songs by a quartet comprised of M.S. Davies, Walter Goldie, Mr. Howard and Mr. Cook. Judge Moses spoke.

Frank Fuller announced plans for holding such a gathering annually. J.T. Bressler was elected president; J.D. King, secretary, and W.A.K. Neely, treasurer.

One year the reunion was held on the courthouse lawn. Miss Charlotte White was speaker, and Prof. M.S. Davies had charge of music. On another occasion, the gathering was at the J.R. Manning farm near Carroll. When the picnic was held at the John Gramsley farm northeast of Wayne, Dr. H.G. Leisenring, who was the owner of the town's only car, entertained the ladies by taking them for short rides. The car was brilliant red and was known for frightening horses and cattle along the route.

In 1918, Winside invited the association to hold its reunion annually in that town. The custom has been followed since.

## Carroll Businessmen Looking Forward to Wayne County's & America's Futures:



### SANDAHL REPAIR

OWNED BY

**Morris Sandahl**

Since 1970

### NELSON REPAIR

OWNED BY

**LeRoy & Sandra Nelson**

Since 1972

### HANSEN GROCERY

OWNED BY

**Maurice & Esther Hansen**

Since 1967

### CARROLL FEED & GRAIN

OWNED BY

**Gene & Cy Gubbels**

Since 1971

### KAVANAUGH FEED & TRUCKING

OWNED BY

**Jack & Betty Kavanaugh**

Since 1964

### CARROLL PLUMBING & HEATING

OWNED BY

**Wayne & Kathleen Hankins**

Since 1972

# Jones' Bookstore

E. H. JONES, Proprietor  
BOOKS, MUSIC AND ART GOODS  
In Wayne Since 1898



Complete and Up-to-Date Lines  
*College and School Text Books  
and Supplies*

PIANOS—Chickering Bros., Acoustigrand, Vertical and Horizontal Grands.

APOLLO PLAYER PIANO.

EDISON DIAMOND DISC PHONOGRAPH.

VICTROLAS AND RECORDS. SHEET MUSIC.

KODAKS—If it isn't an Eastman, it isn't a Kodak.

SPALDING ATHLETIC GOODS—Complete equipment for all athletic sports.

LEATHER GOODS AND ART SUPPLIES.

CHINA AND ARTWARE.

THE M. H. BIRGE & SON'S WALL HANGINGS.

We carry a full line of the Whiting Versailla Stationery, also Old Hampshire Bond—“Stationery of a Gentleman.”

**THE BOOKSTORE**

**Wayne, Nebraska**

JULY 1914

# Serving Wayne on the East Side of Main FOR NEARLY 80 YEARS

WAYNE BOOK STORE



WAYNE BOOK STORE — 1976

The Wayne Bookstore was originally called the Jones' Bookstore when it opened its doors for the first time in 1898.

The Jones family owned the store for a number of years before selling out to E. W. Wright who changed the name to the Wayne Bookstore and ran the establishment until 1939. In 1939 Wayne Marsh bought the store and remodeled both the exterior and interior over the past few years.

Soon after Marsh bought the bookstore, he expanded his business with the sale of office machines and office furniture. In 1973 Marsh bought a building across the street at 214 Main to serve as a display store for his office equipment.



# WAYNE BOOK STORE

*And Office Products*

OPEN DAILY 9:30 - 5:30 — THURSDAY - 9:30 - 9:00

219 Main

Phone 375-3295

# Winside Won in Location Dispute



MAIN STREET, Winside, looking west in the early 1900's shows the town as a growing community with flourishing businesses.

Winside is located in the south central portion of Wayne County, in the center of a rich agricultural section.

Years ago, when the town was forming, it was located west of its present site and was called Northside. In 1881, the railroad came through the county, raising a dispute over the location of a depot in the area Northside lost, and the town changed its name to "Winside."

Winside was settled in 1886, when a train ran between Sioux City and Norfolk. The tracks were removed in 1972. About 1890, Winside was incorporated into a township and W. H. McClosky became the first mayor. Homes began springing up in the western part of town; Mrs. Minnie Anderson now resides in the first house built in Winside.

Businesses have changed over the years. Early stores included a depot, roller mill, general store, blacksmith shop, harness and shoe repair shop; a brick yard and creameries, hardware stores, a millinery shop, an opera house and drug stores.

At one time the town had five elevators which were kept so busy that farmers had to wait to unload grain.

The first school was located in a room above a store. The first school building, a two-level structure, was built in 1890 and Harvey Mason was the first principal.

A new brick structure was built in 1913 for elementary and high school students. The present high school was completed in 1963 and a new elementary building went up in 1970. Donovan Leighton is superintendent

and Al Schlueter is principal.

In 1888, Winside recorded its first fire at the post office and McDerby Store. During the 1900's, a group decided to organize a fire department, but it lasted only a few years after interest declined. Later, another volunteer fire department was organized and the present building was erected in 1965.

Winside's present fire department has 25 volunteer firemen. Officers are George Voss, fire chief; Ted Hoeman, assistant fire chief; Edward Oswald, president; Gene Jensen, vice president, and Willis Reichert, secretary-treasurer.

In 1965 Winside residents recognized the need for a rescue unit and a 1965 Ford station wagon was used until the present unit, a 1975 van, was purchased.

The Winside Woman's Club organized the first library in 1902, and it was taken over by the town in 1911. At present, the library is housed in the city auditorium. Story hour is held each summer and board members meet the first Saturday of each month.

Mrs. Harry Suehl Sr. is librarian. Board members are Gladys Reichert, Mrs. Mildred Witte, Mrs. Suehl, Mrs. John Gallop and Mrs. H.L. Neely.

The American Legion received its charter in 1920. Later, the name was changed to Roy Reed Post 252 in memory of Roy Reed, who died while serving in France during World War II. The Auxiliary was started in 1925 to aid disabled veterans.

Today, organizations in Winside include Brownie Troop 167, the Winside Senior Citizens orga-

nization and the Helping Hands and Charmers 'N Farmers 4-H Clubs.

Although no newspaper is published in Winside today, many residents recall when the town did have a weekly publication, called The Winside Watchman. A later publication, The Winside Tribune, changed hands several times before it ceased to be printed.

As the town grew, residents realized the need for a cemetery and took the problem to the town board. A site was located west of Winside and is still known today as Pleasantview Cemetery.

Winside's park is located on the south side of Main St. In addition to play equipment for youngsters, the park has several picnic tables and benches. A grandstand is located in the

## Short Line Farm Equipment Parts & Service

Since  
1952



### WACKER FARM STORE

Winside, Nebraska

Phone 286-4522

# Church Met in Opera House, School

center of the park and a shelter house was erected at the west edge of the park a few years ago.

The Rev. E. E. Wilson was the first minister assigned by the Nebraska Conference of Methodist Churches to serve the United Methodist Church in 1886. Sunday school and worship services were held at School District 79 until a church was built in 1891.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized in 1891 southwest of Winside in the home of Edward Krause. The

Rev. F. Koch of Hadar served the congregation in the first years and a frame structure was erected and dedicated June 27, 1891. The Rev. Ludwig Rauch became St. Paul's first resident pastor in 1893. He was followed by Pastor E. A. Klause, who served until 1898.

The parsonage was built under the pastorate of Rev. Hagedorn, who served the parish for two years. He was followed by Rev. G. Press, who served through 1917. Pastor Julius Fricke accepted the call to St. Paul's serving through the years of

World War I and until his death in 1922.

The old church was remodeled several times in the ensuing years, and a basement was added in 1937. By 1955, the congregation had outgrown its facilities. Construction of a new church began in 1955 at an estimated cost of \$130,000. The new edifice was dedicated on Oct. 21, 1956.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is presently served by the Rev. G. W. Gottberg.

The history of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church dates

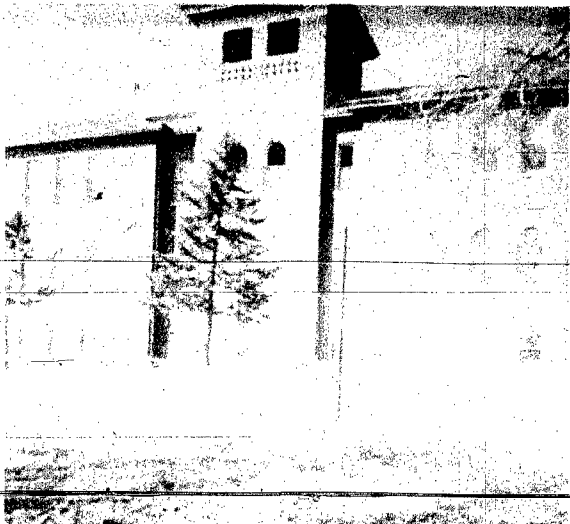
back to 1901 when due to a misunderstanding with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the charter members of Trinity Lutheran Church withdrew from the former church and made plans to organize a new congregation and to join with the General Synod.

On Nov. 10, 1901, an organizational meeting was held and the first officers elected. The constitution of the General Synod, now a part of the United Lutheran Church in America, was adopted. The first pastor to serve was the Rev. H. Karpen-

stein from Wavne.

The first meetings were held in the old Opera House and the frame schoolhouse in Winside. The present church site was purchased from S. Needham for \$50, and a building committee appointed. The church was built for \$109 and the first service was in 1902. Today, the church is served by the Rev. Paul Reimers.

All businesses were and still are, built on the north side of the street. The newest business building, the post office, is located (Continued on following page)



IN 1913, Winside school students attended classes in the two-story brick structure pictured at left. The school was torn down in 1973 and two new homes have been built on the old school ground. A third home is under construction.

The photo at right shows the community's present high school, completed in 1963, and new elementary building which went up in 1970.

## These Winside Merchants Boost Their Town, County & Country:

### MILLER'S GW MARKET

OWNED BY

Dale & D'Orsay Miller

Since 1972

### LEE & ROSIE'S TAVERN

OWNED BY

Lee & Rosie Koch

Since 1974

### SCHMODE-WEIBLE TRANSFER

OWNED BY

Frank Weible

Since 1946

### Tri-County Non-Stock Co-Op Assn.

Laurel, Winside, Concord, Randolph

Since 1953

### CHARLIE'S BAR

OWNED BY

Charles Weible

Since 1975

### RAY'S LOCKER

OWNED BY

Ray & Judy Jacobsen

Since 1975

# Dehy Is a Major Employer

(Continued from preceding page) ted on the south side of the street and was constructed in 1974.

Mrs. Gary Farrens opened a gift shop, Country Curios, in the fall of 1975 in the old post office building.

In November of 1975, Charlie Weible took over the Poppin J Bar from Ervin Jaeger who moved to Arizona.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Miller purchased the local grocery, Miller's Market, in 1972 from Mr. and Mrs. Carl Troutman. Troutmans had run the business for 25 years.

A financial institution that has built up a dependable business during its career among the farmers and businessmen in Winside is the Winside State Bank. The present bank building was erected in 1913 and remodeled and expanded in 1970.

Many banks were organized in the early days of the town, most lasting just a short time. During the early 1930's, the town didn't have any banks. In 1935, the present bank was organized, the 10th to locate in the town.

One of the town's biggest industries is Winside Dehy plant, located a mile southwest of Winside. The plant was built in 1964 and employs six persons during the winter and 24 during the summer months. Earl Svoboda took over as plant manager in October of 1975.

The dehydration plant chops, dries and compresses hay into feed pellets, producing from 6,000 to 7,000 tons of finished pellets each year. About 5,000 to

6,000 acres of hay are harvested annually.

Tri-County Co-Op began operating about 1953 in the Waterhouse building at the west end of Main St., moving to the present building in 1960. Charles Jackson became manager in 1969. The Co-op had just one tank truck when it began operating. At present, there are nine nurse tanks and five applicators.

The Co-op also operates a service station and sells feed and fertilizer in addition to handling hardware products and bulk fuel deliveries.

Schmode and Weible Transfer of Winside began operation on March 6, 1946, and was operated by Frank Weible, Alvin Schmode and George Voss. The business was first located in the old Mettlen building which has

since been torn down.

The trucking company moved to its present location about 18 years ago. Since beginning, Weible has purchased the entire business from Schmode and Voss.

Businesses in Winside in 1976 are Miller's Market, Tri-County Co-op, Wacker Farm Store, Will's Welding, Schmode and Weible Transfer, N and M Oil

Co., the Post Office, Charlie's Bar, Will's Cafe, Mari-Lin's Beauty Salon, Gallop's Garage, Lee and Rosie's, Hoeman's Plumbing, Ray's Locker, a laundromat, the veterinary office of Dr. N.S. Ditman, Jay's Plumbing and Heating, Wilva's Beauty Salon, Cleaveland Electric, Winside Building Supply, Apking Locksmith, Harry's Barber Shop, Stenwall Service Station, Winside State Bank, Voss Grinding and Shelling Service, Willse Mortuary, Country Curios, Warnemunde Insurance and Schrant Roadside Dairy.

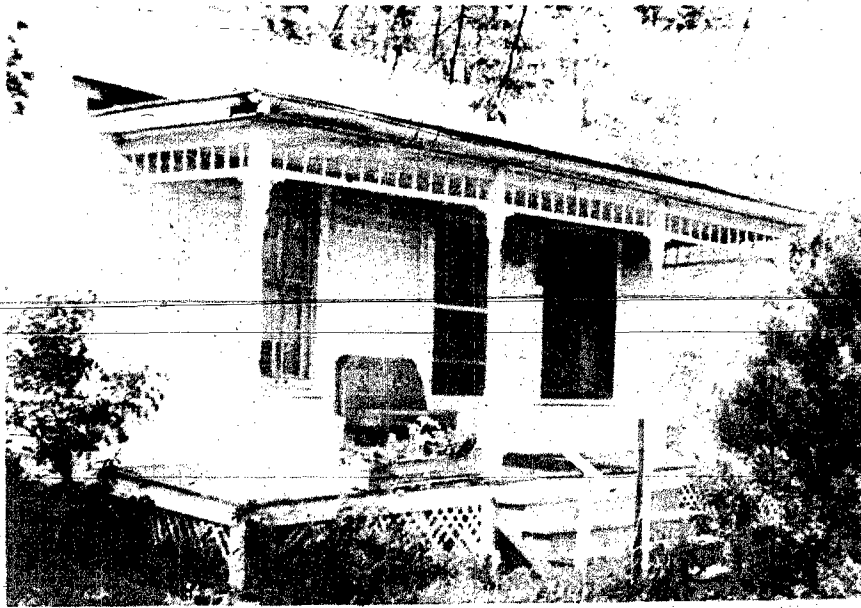
An annual event at Winside is the Old Settlers Reunion, held each July. The celebration was first held in 1901 and has been held continuously in Winside since 1918. The first get-togethers were picnic dinners. Today, the event features adult and kiddie parades, rides on the midway and various other entertainment throughout the celebration.

Winside was chosen a Bicentennial community in the spring of 1976 and a Bicentennial flag raising ceremony was held on May 2 with Senator John Murphy making the flag presentation. Richard Miller is Bicentennial chairman.

Two signs, signifying Winside as a Bicentennial community, have been placed along Highway 35 at the west edge of town.

Dallas Puls is Winside's mayor, and board members include Vernon Hill, Frank Weible, Robert Cleveland and Andrew Mann.

Throughout the years, Winside's population has remained about the same.



THE FIRST home built in Winside, around 1890, is now occupied by Mrs. Minnie Andersen. The house is located on the western edge of the community.



1937

The father-son combination of Phil and Jack March have presented quality entertainment to the people of the Wayne-area for over 40 years.

Beginning in 1921, Phil March moved to Wayne and bought the Gay Theatre and Crystal Theatre from Elmore Gailey. Phil had entered the theatre business in 1926 with his father, J.F. March, in Vermillion, S.D. Over the years, the Crystal was renamed the Co-Ed Theatre and finally closed in March of 1954. In May of 1952 Phil March expanded his business by building and opening the Dude Ranch Drive-In north of Wayne. The drive-in had a capacity for 320 cars in 1952 and has been expanded since.

In 1961 the current owner of the Gay, Jack March, bought the theatre.



Old CO-ED Theatre

The March Theatres:  
Presenting  
Entertainment  
In Wayne For 44 Years

**Gay Theatre**  
Wayne, Nebraska

2 Days Western Electric Sound System 2 Days

Sunday and Monday, April 13-14

LOOK AND LISTEN!  
Here Is A Real Picture!

William Fox  
Presents  
**ZANE  
GREY'S**

First  
all Talking  
Picture

The  
**LONE STAR  
RANGER**

Photographed in Rainbow Arch, Utah.

with  
GEO. O'BRIEN and SUE CAKOL

Matinee Sunday at 3:00 p.m.  
First Show Sunday Evening 7:00 p.m.  
Admission 15c and 50c

LENTON SERVICES AT THE GAY  
April 14-18, Each Afternoon at 1:30

Listen in on WBAZ each Monday, Wednesday and Saturday  
at 6:30 p.m. For our program announcements.

Gay Theatre Ad, Circa 1930



1937



(Station as it looked from 1948-1963)

# Fredrickson Oil Co.

1½ Miles North of Wayne — Phone 375-3535

**CONOCO**



In 1937 Bill and Rose Fredrickson moved from their farm northwest of Carroll and opened a one-room service station and tavern 1½ miles north of Wayne on the west side of Highway 15.

The small station stayed almost the same until 1947 when one bay, storage area and more room for the tavern was added on. On Dec. 31, 1947 tragedy struck as a fire gutted the wood-frame building. The Fredrickson's rebuilt, however, and in 1954 their son, Swede, returned from the armed services to enter the business.

By 1958 Fredrickson's added a tank wagon service and in 1961 B.F. Goodrich Tires began being sold and remained as one of the main products of the business today.

The year 1963 brought more remodeling with a brick front added to the station and another bay for car repair. Swede took over the business from his father in 1965 and in 1971 built a brick building north of the station that is used for tire alignment and oil storage. The storage building was expanded in the winter of 1975 as Fredrickson Oil continues to grow.

Throughout the 39 year history of Fredrickson's Oil, Conoco products have always been part of the business.

**B.F. Goodrich**

1963



1976



**AL SWAN**  
founder

# Expanding With the Clothing Needs of Wayne

In January of 1936 Al Swan left Fred Blair Clothing and started off on his own by opening Swan's Clothing for men and women at 205 Main in Wayne. In 1953, Al Swan moved to 218 Main where in partnership with Robert McLean, Swan-McLean clothing for men and boys became a successful Wayne Business. In January of 1975 Roger Nelson became one of the co-owners. The business expanded again in March of 1976 when the lower level of Swan-McLean was remodeled into a jean's shop and named the Rusty Nail.

Throughout the past 40 years the name Swan has been closely linked with quality and up-to-date clothing in Wayne.

**Curlee** SUITS

JOCKEY

**Levi's**

*Clothing Lines With Us  
In the Beginning and  
Still With Us in 1976!!*

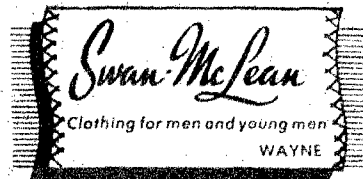


**ROGER NELSON**  
co-owner



**ROBERT MCLEAN**  
co-owner

## The New Rusty Nail



**The RUSTY NAIL**

**JEAN SHOP**



# Railroad Determined Wayne Site

By Mrs. Betty Hepburn

Why did pioneers come to settle in this part of the country, where only rolling hills clothed in deep grass beckoned, where disease, prairie fires, drouth, grasshoppers and blizzards caused setback and suffering?

In truth, Wayne came into existence because of the railroad, and was first called Brookdale by the railroad until set-

tlers decided that the county seat be named for the county. Both bear the name of General Anthony Wayne, a Revolutionary soldier.

LaPorte was established as the first county seat, but when the railroad came through in 1882, missing LaPorte, the businesses were moved to Wayne and Wakefield by means of horse and windlass.

By 1882 Wayne was being settled fast. Main Street was at first just a crude road through the prairie with one store and one bank (frame structures), followed by a furniture store, a music store and another bank. A few frame houses popped up on the prairie close to Main St. Land was selling as high as \$5 an acre.

In 1880 Henry Ley arrived in

Wayne and established the "German Store," extending credit to settlers who were prompt to pay their account annually, after the crops were in and sold. But, Ley was known to delay collections for legitimate reasons.

Tobacco, cheese, dried fruits and pickles were freely sampled by customers who might buy green coffee to be roasted and

ground at Ley's store. There was little fresh fruit, due to lack of refrigeration, and when the first banana bunch arrived it was hung for all to admire, newspapers to write about and for each customer to have a free sample.

Ley's operated the store for 10 years, later entering the banking profession. In 1896, under a new owner, a fire from a kerosene lantern necessitated remodeling of the building.

In 1891 another downtown blaze destroyed half a block of Main St., taking six frame buildings, including a clothing store, doctor's office, grocery, general store, office and a private dwelling. The bucket brigade was inadequate in thwarting the fire, but 30 barrels of salt from Miller's grocery was helpful.

John T. Bressler of Pennsylvania settled in Wayne in 1881, reestablishing his LaPorte bank here in 1885 which has continued as The First National Bank. In order to help make farm country of the surrounding land he dug saplings from the river beds and planted them on his homestead, helping transform the treeless prairie to its present ecology.

Bressler became a state senator in 1894, and was a delegate to the republican national convention in 1896 where his committee informed McKinley of his nomination. He was a member of the county congressional and state committees for the republican party, and worked or state ownership of the college, as did Henry Ley, James Brittain, and P.H. Kohl.

(Continued on following page)



A FIRE in 1891 destroyed a half block of Wayne's business district. The blaze consumed six buildings, including a

clothing store, doctor's office, grocery store, general store, an office and a private dwelling.



Cliff Johnson — 1944

Clifford Johnson, owner of Johnson's Frozen Foods, started in the 'meat business' at about age 16.

He apprenticed with Denbeck's Market. Among other duties, he made deliveries with his faithful horse 'Old Jim' and a two-wheeled cart. Jim was blind but he never stumbled or missed a cue.

Before refrigeration, they made the rounds of almost every home in Wayne, at least once a day. Long, hard hours directed the work in those days.

After a recess of about eight years, Clifford returned in 1936 to his former trade which he has pursued henceforth. He and his family lived in Valentine for three years, then he returned to Wayne to build and open his own processing plant in May, 1940.

With Mrs. Johnson's assistance for 30 years, a very valuable service was offered

to the community.

About 18 years ago, Larry returned from a hitch in the service to join the firm; he is now manager. Continuous growth has marked the progress of the business, although housed in a very modest surrounding.

The very best possible service and superior-quality products mark the Johnson business policy. Their work and meats are now federally inspected, with a No. 4 rating, the only top rating in the area. All recipes, for their homemade Wilcliff brand products, are federally approved, an honor no other firm in the community can claim.

Seven or eight people are employed, some part time. Johnsons offer slaughtering, processing, curing, sausage making, smoking — besides wholesale and retail meats, many of them home slaughtered.



Larry & Cliff — 1976

**JOHNSON  
FROZEN FOODS**

**Processing Quality Meats in Wayne for 36 Years!**

# City Incorporated in 1884

(Continued from preceding page)

In 1905 Bressler gave the city a block of land for a city park where trees were planted and a bandstand erected. Another park, donated by Bressler in the east part of town, was similarly equipped. In 1910 he became mayor of Wayne. John T. Bressler Jr. is a current resident of Wayne.

In 1884 Wayne, now with a population of 200, was incorporated and village trustees were appointed, later elected in Wayne's first election in April 1, 1884. Sidewalks were among the first order of business, and bicycles, tricycles, and velocipedes were prohibited on sidewalks and in public streets. A calaboose was erected for \$140 for persons guilty of misdemeanors.

The Wayne Town Hall association provided a building for county offices and a court, which burned in 1884, destroying the county offices as well as the newspaper printing office. Temporary offices were provided by businessmen. In 1855 the sheriff's residence and jail was built and a bond issue for a courthouse, located on the same site, passed in 1898. The courthouse was occupied in 1899.

By 1889 Wayne had 1,130 residents and the city was divided into three wards. In 1890 the city council voted for a 12-foot board sidewalk on Main street from the depot to Fourth street. Gasoline street lamps were purchased for the business district

and a bond issue passed for the construction of a water works system. For many years, the water tank stood in the middle of the street at the top of Main street hill.

Fire limits were fixed in 1891 and were protected by a hose cart and 500 feet of hose. J.G. Mines was appointed fire marshal. The firehouse on Main and Third streets had first a steel bell and then a bronze one. Firemen pulled the two-wheeled fire cart until later when teams of ponies were used.

Social life kept pace with the work, including husking bees, balls, spelling bees, debates and literary society meetings. Mrs. Mary Brittain had read in a New York magazine about Parisian women who organized into groups for study and social activities. She presented the idea to Wayne women who decided to follow suit. The Acme Club, organized in 1885, took a course from the University of Chicago and studied history and literature. The same year, the Monday Club organized to establish and maintain the library.

Billings at the frame opera house on Fifth and Main streets included eastern company productions, community plays, concerts, speeches and addresses. Sam Jones conducted a revival there, which lasted several weeks, the local Shakespearean Club sponsored plays and the Andrews Opera Co. presented "The Mikado."

In 1884 nine businessmen formed the Wayne Silver Corner Band. Several years later they contracted with the Sioux City Corn Palace, and the Wayne Corn Palace Band was "one of the best in the Northwest," playing often for Sioux City street fairs and carnivals. They also played for receptions for visiting dignitaries who arrived by train to deliver speeches from the back platform. Williams Jennings Bryan was one such orator.

The telephone came to Wayne in 1897 with 25 subscribers. Nebraska Bell was confined at first to the outskirts of the city, the long distance station on a farm north of Wayne. In 1903, franchise was granted by the city to Nebraska Bell serving first the city of Wayne and then farms that were connected with the Wayne exchange. A. B. Clark put in the first farm phone, using his fence posts to support the wire, with poles to raise it over roads and driveways. An independent exchange operated in Wayne until Nebraska Bell bought it in 1910.

Bids were opened in 1898 for an electric light plant, at first providing electric light service only in the evenings at 50 cents per month for 16 candle lights and \$1 for 32 candle lights. The first street lights had been kerosene lamps, but now arc lights were hung at mid intersections of the business district.

Wayne has had a college since 1887, when the Lutheran Academy was established and continued until 1890. In that year,

(Continued on following page)



Main Street looking North, Wayne, Neb.



EARLY Settlers enjoyed a day away from difficult pioneer tasks to attend a celebration. A portable circus tent, top photo, was set up one year on the site where Wayne's Fire Hall now stands. In 1894, a celebration on Wayne's Main St., center photo, attracted a crowd of several hundred persons. The bottom photo shows Main St. during Wayne's formative years.

**Celebrating  
The Nations 200th  
Birthday  
1776 - 1976**



**WAYNE'S  
HEADQUARTERS  
FOR FINE FOOD  
SINCE 1968**



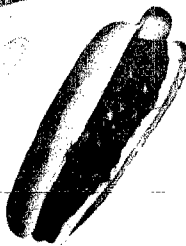
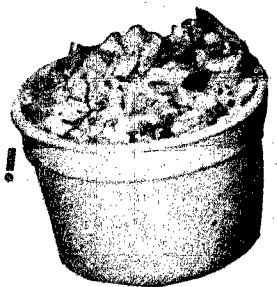
**THE**

**Lil' Duffer**

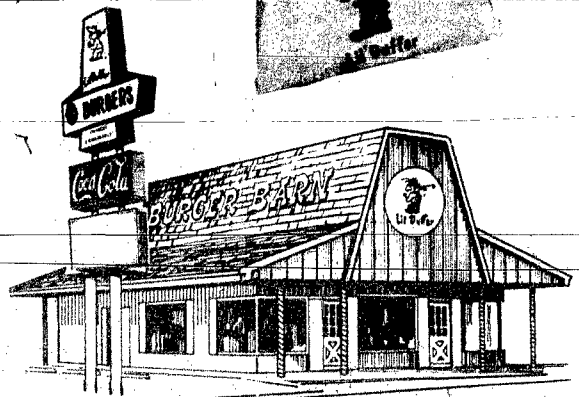


**THANK YOU AMERICA  
FOR FREE ENTERPRISE ...**

**Giving Us The  
Opportunity to Serve!**



**Lil' Duffer  
BURGER BARN**



**7th & Main Wayne, Nebr. Phone 375-1900**

## Pile Establishes College

J.M. Pile instructed a 10-week summer school which generated enthusiasm to establish a normal college in Wayne in 1891, with Pile president.

After five years of expansion, the five-acre property with college building and dormitories was deeded to him, and in 1909 the legislature authorized the board of education to purchase the property with the original college buildings, including an auditorium, five dormitories, president's house and power plant, plus 13 additional acres for \$70,000. In 1911 the legislature also provided for a library and science hall and in 1915 an administration building.

J.M. Pile served as president until his death in 1909, and U.S.

Conn served 25 years after the school became a state institution.

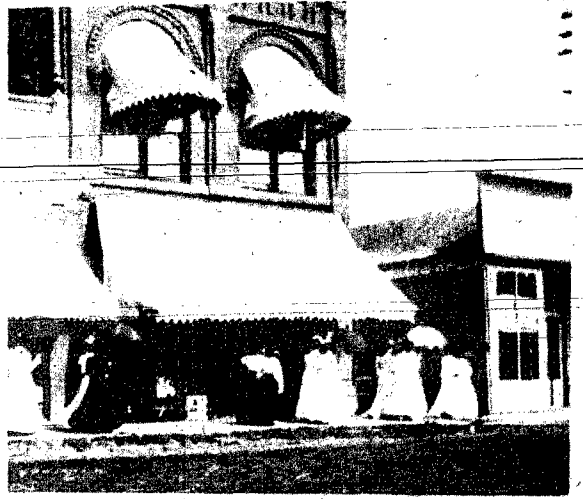
Wayne City School began in 1881 on Logan street and moved to Main street in 1883. Of course, several grades were included in one large room. In 1884 bonds were issued for a school building which was occupied in 1885, replaced in 1891, and followed by a new brick building in 1908.

In 1910, Dr. A.S. Lutgen located in Wayne at the encouragement of President Conn of Wayne Normal College. In addition to serving as college physician, Dr. Lutgen organized the first hospital in the area, which was located at the present

(Continued on following page)



BY 1890, Wayne was already establishing itself as an expanding community. The top photo shows Wayne's Main St., looking north, in 1890. The blizzard of 1886, bottom left, saw little activity on Main St. A typical street scene, bottom right, shows women in long white dresses strolling Wayne's business district, apparently unbothered by the muddy Main St.

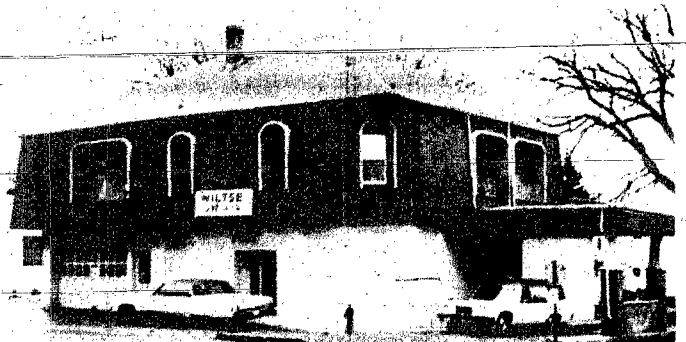


1915


### SERVING WAYNE AND WAYNE COUNTY FOR THREE GENERATIONS

- 1909 — *William Beckenhauer becomes sole owner*
- 1915 — *Beckenhauer moves Mortuary to Present Site at 4th & Main in Wayne*
- 1926 — *Willard Wiltse Joins his Father-In-Law's Business*
- 1955 — *Son Rowan Wiltse Joins the Business*
- 1956 — *Mortuary Started in Laurel*
- 1958 — *Name Changed to Wiltse Mortuaries*
- 1959 — *Wiltse Mortuary Started in Winside*

**Wiltse**  
**Mortuaries**  
Wayne - Laurel - Winside



**Current Photo**



**My country  
'tis of thee  
Sweet land of liberty . . .**



Roy Hurd, owner

*Let Freedom Ring!*

*This has been the essence*

*of our prayer and pledge since the chiming  
of the Liberty Bell announced the nation's adoption*

*of the Declaration of Independence on*

*July 4th, 1776. America was founded on the*

*quest for freedom and this is the time to*

*rededicate ourselves to that ideal. Let us now pay tribute to the*

*determination and courage of our founding fathers, who worked to establish equality,*

*justice and truth for all. Let us honor our country by taking pride in our*

*heritage . . . renewing our patriotism . . . respecting the Constitution. Let us live for*

*freedom each day of our lives.*

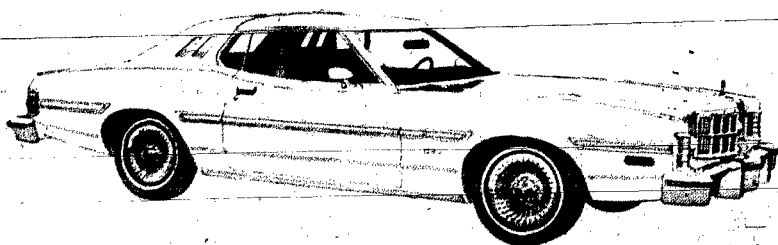
*Let us love our country and stand behind her always.*

*Let us celebrate her 200th birthday, the American Revolution Bicentennial,*

*by letting the Spirit of '76 lead us on*

*to new challenges,*

*new goals and new inspiration.*



**ROY HURD**

**FORD-MERCURY**

**119 East Third Street**

**Phone 375-3780**



# THE STATE NATIONAL BANK

Serving Wayne

Continuously Since 1892

The State National Bank of Wayne has been at its location on the southwest corner of Second and Main since its beginning in 1892. The bank was incorporated that year as the State Bank of Wayne with Henry Ley as president. The bank started with an authorized stock of \$75,000.

In 1930 the name of the bank was changed to the State National Bank and in 1967 the bank received full trust powers and became known as the State National Bank and Trust Company. The Ley family has always owned the bank with the present Henry Ley the grandson of the bank's founder. Rollie Ley was the father of the present bank president.

In January of 1975 a drive-in bank was built at 1102 Main and by 1976 the total bank assets were in excess of \$22,000,000.



1976 at 112 Main Street



STATE BANK — 1890's

## GROWING IN DOLLARS

STATEMENT OF CONDITJON — MARCH 29, 1926

ASSETS	
Loans and discounts	5697,303.88
Overdrafts	1,687.98
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	12,000.00
United States Liberty Bonds and Cert. of Ind.	364,653.43
Due from National and State banks	\$188,283.40
Checks and items of exchange	1,977.03
Cash in bank	22,539.83
<b>TOTAL CASH</b>	<b>212,800.26</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,228,445.55</b>

LIABILITIES	
Capital stock	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus fund	20,000.00
Undivided profits (Net)	10,446.67
Individual deposits subject to check	549,018.24
Demand certificates of deposit	8,484.20
Time certificates of deposit	633,204.72
Due to National and State banks	9,006.15
<b>Total Deposits</b>	<b>1,199,713.31</b>
Depositor's guaranty fund	9,285.57
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,288,445.55</b>

STATEMENT OF CONDITION — MARCH 31, 1976

ASSETS	
Cash and Due from Banks	\$ 2,029,615.91
U.S. Treasury Securities	1,633,187.00
U.S. Government Agencies Obligations	2,848,179.69
Municipal Bonds	3,860,732.49
Other Investments	125,000.00
Federal Reserve Bank Stock	27,000.00
Federal Funds	400,000.00
Loans	10,834,630.93
Bank Premises	259,884.06
Furniture and Fixtures	43,301.13
Other Assets	8,379.68
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$22,069,910.89</b>

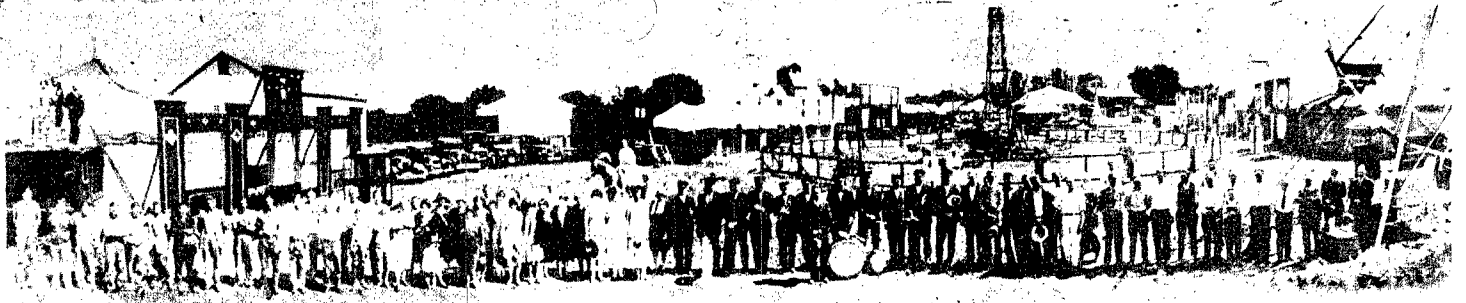
  

LIABILITIES	
Deposits	\$20,544,204.90
Other Liabilities	2,700.00
Capital Stock	450,000.00
Surplus	450,000.00
Undivided Profits	623,005.99
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$22,069,910.89</b>

## GROWING IN FACILITIES



Drive-In Bank at 1002 Main Street



PLAYERS IN the Savidge Tent Circus, which was headquartered in Wayne, halted activities long enough in 1928 to pose for the above photo. Mrs. Walter Savidge, who operated the circus with her husband, still resides in Wayne. One of Wayne's early businesses, bottom photo, was the Piepenstock harness shop, pictured here in 1900.

## Library Built in 1913

site of the Wayne Care Centre. He also owned and operated pioneer radio station KGCH, operating from the hospital grounds.

A small group of women organized in 1898 to promote Wayne as a means of free book circulation. With the help of Mr. Andrew Carnegie, who agreed to supply 10 times the amount, the town guaranteed, the new library was built and opened in 1913 on a lot bought for \$850.

Wayne's Main St. was paved in 1920. Mr. Blair, owner of a clothing store, sought to narrow the wooden sidewalks and widen the street to make room for parking as well as traffic.

When the first horseless carriage arrived, belonging to Dr. H.G. Leisenning, it was a red one-seater capable of 15 mph with one cylinder. The horses were so adversely affected that a law was passed requiring drivers to stop and shut off their engines when they approached a horse.

One of the more colorful recordings in Wayne's history is the traveling circus. Mrs. Walter Savidge, who still resides

in Wayne, remembers the years with their circus. She became acquainted with her husband, a wire walking artist, when her father, who was president of the county fair, hired him to perform.

Mrs. Savidge had attended and taught at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. She had been selected a member of the opera chorus of the Opera School in Boston, having returned to the midwest where she taught at various towns and at Wayne's Normal College, and having mastered the technique of oil painting, was suddenly spending summers in a private circus train equipped with mahogany berths, beautiful mirrors and silver basins with hot and cold running water. The winters were spent in opera houses as the piano player in vaudeville shows between the acts.

During the summers, New York and Chicago companies brought their products to the Savidge tents, and outside were 20 concession stands, side shows and rides, all termed "ballyhoo!"



## Growing & Changing Over The Years At 614 Main

For nearly 40 years the southwest corner of Wayne's busiest intersection at 7th and Main has been occupied by a service station pumping Skelly gas.

First as Langemeier Oil Company and now as M & S Oil the corner for years has been a stop for motorists interested in the very best for their cars.

In 1938 Roy Langemeier built the first service station at 614 Main.

During 1949 Mern Mordhorst leased the business and in 1959 Mordhorst and Don Sherbahn bought the company and incorporated M & S Oil Company. The present building at 614 Main was built in 1955.

April of 1975 brought expansion to M & S with the opening of M & S Radiator and Repair at 419 Main.

Skelly and Goodyear have been the two major products handled by the company over the years with Skelly being the only gas pumped over the 38 years and Goodyear products being sold over the past 13 years.



M & S OIL at 614 MAIN

**GOODYEAR TIRES**



M & S RADIATOR REPAIR at 419 MAIN

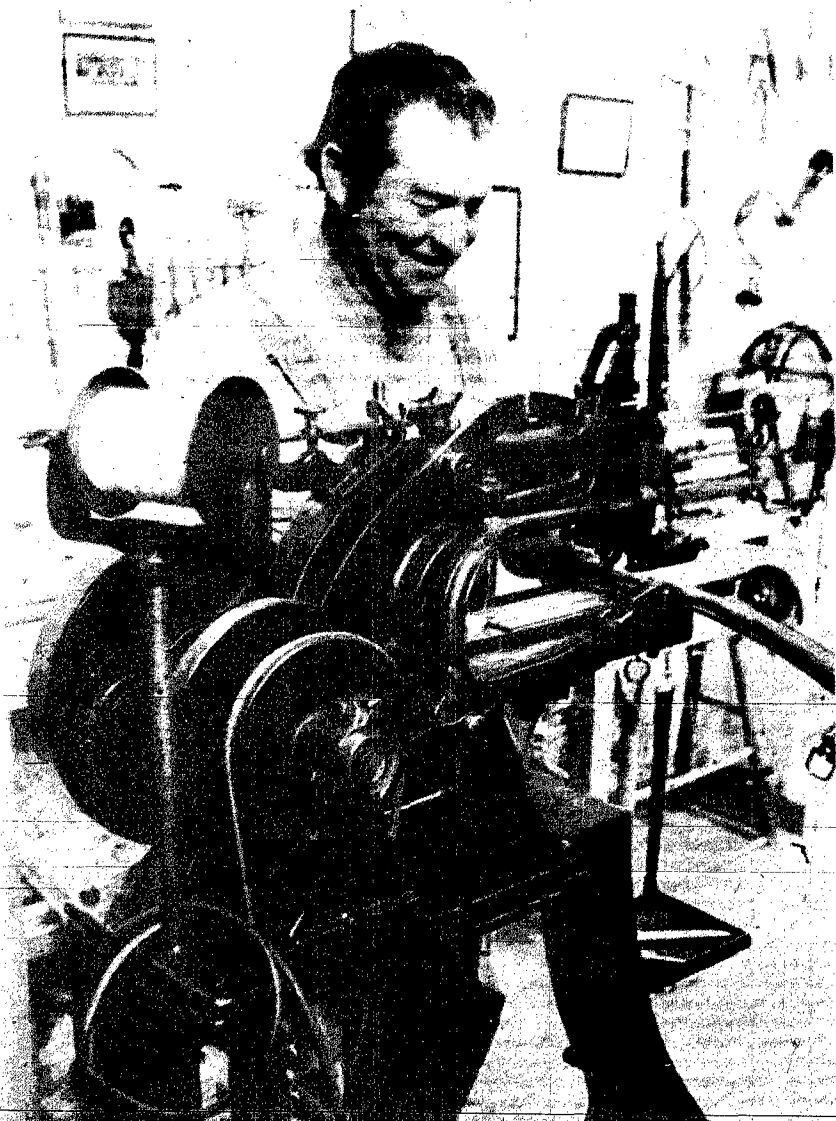
M & S  
OIL CO.

**M & S OIL**

614 Main  
Phone 375-1830

**M & S RADIATOR  
REPAIR**

419 Main  
Phone: 375-2811



## Harnessing A Tradition

By Jim Strayer

The smells of leather and oil in the harness shop behind Ed Leicy's home in Carroll would probably bring back memories for many Wayne County residents who grew up in the days when horsepower on farms still meant horses. A quick look at the well ordered set-up shop is indication of the pride Leicy takes in his work.

"We always had horses on the farm when I was growing up," said Leicy in explaining the occupations and avocation which have kept him close to horses.

His brother still farms near Sholes, and still keeps some horses which he uses when mowing along roads, or sowing oats. He also breaks, raises, trains and sells the draft animals.

Ed returned to Nebraska two years ago after living for a number of years in Ohio and decided to set up a harness shop to help supply his brother and other draft horse enthusiasts. The harness maker works full time for Carhart Lumber as a carpenter.

Leicy had settled in Ohio after his discharge from the army, working as a painter. As a hobby, he restored an old blacksmith shop while living in New Washington, Ohio and set up a harness shop there. A fellow blacksmith eventually enticed Leicy to accept employment which led to a return to older ways of living for the native Nebraskan.

The blacksmith friend was employed shoeing horses for the Amish people in LaGrange County, Indiana. Ed had been collecting and restoring old bug-

gies and carriages. "I guess on cars you'd call them racing stripes," Leicy said explaining the decorative work he applied to the Amish vehicles.

The Old Amish religious order was formed when a Dutch priest, Jacob Amin, broke away from the Mennonite Church because he thought it was becoming too progressive. The Amish people adhere to strict dress codes which proscribe, for example, belts or billed caps for men, because they are regarded as representing soldiers. The Amish are conscientious objectors and do not serve in the military.

Modern technology such as electric appliances, automobiles and tractors are also shunned, and horses are used for farming and transportation.

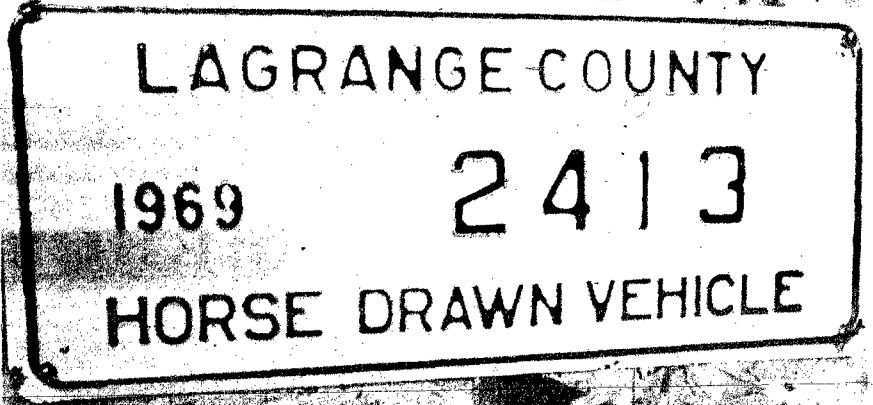
The wall of Leicy's harness shop in Carroll displays a souvenir of his nearly seven years of living and working with the Amish. Indiana license plates labelled "horse drawn vehicle" are tacked to the wall. Ed explains that because of the large Amish population in Indiana, the roads department there has found it necessary to tax the Amish vehicles. Owners pay a basic fee of \$15, plus one dollar for each additional vehicle. Most families own several buggies and carriage for various purposes.

Buggies driven after sundown must be equipped with lights. Some of the younger Amish men use batteries to power tractor headlights, going so far as to install dimmer switches for high-low beams, but the older folk think that is getting pretty





**HARNESS MAKER** Ed Leicy keeps his tools well ordered and ready for use (top photo, opposite page). Leicy uses a power stitching machine (below, opposite) for some applications, but still prefers to complete some pieces by hand, with the stitching awl (left). One souvenir for his years working and living with the Amish people is a La Grange County, Ind., license plate for a horse drawn vehicle (below) which the Amish use exclusively for personal transportation. Carriage tools (bottom photo, this page) are displayed on the wall of Leicy's harness shop, and he has plans to eventually open a carriage shop, too. Photos by Jim Strayer.



flashy. Leicy said, and stick to lanterns.

Electric batteries seem incongruous for people who do not permit electricity in their homes. Leicy explained that the Amish are not opposed to electricity per se. In fact, a diesel powered generator provided electricity for an arc welder in the carriage shop where Leicy worked. That is viewed as a necessity today because skilled blacksmiths are becoming hard to find. Home electricity is shunned because it is believed it would open the door for television and radio, which would expose the Amish to outside ideas.

Leicy lived in his own trailer on an Amish farm and enjoyed the life. "I could have had electricity in my home," he said. "They did not expect others to follow their beliefs. But I would have had to have a power line installed, so I did without. It wasn't as much a hardship on me as it would have been to a lot of people, because we didn't have electricity on the farm when I was growing up."

Skylights provided most lighting in the areas where Ed did decorative and finishing work on carriages and some Coleman lanterns were used in the main shop. When lighting was insufficient for pointing, he also helped make new horse-drawn plows.

The Nebraskan found the work and life agreeable, but eventually decided he needed a change.

"I really enjoyed the time I spent with the Amish, and hated to leave there. I got to be like one of the family. But I decided I needed a change and wanted to work outside."

That led to his decision to return to Nebraska two years ago and he has worked as a carpenter for Carhart Lumber since then.

Leicy said he had some tools for making harness when he

decided to set up his shop, and had previously made harness, but credits Wayne's old-time harness maker and shoe repairman, Walt Lerner, with supplying him many of the tools and knowledge he employs in converting sides of leather into harness.

"The old-time harness makers were really artists," Leicy said. "Walt has probably forgot more about the craft than I'll ever know. Every time I sit down to talk to him, I learn something else."

"He said my work is looking good," Leicy added, conveying that he takes Lerner's comment as a compliment for an old master of the craft.

Lerner, 85, told Leicy his days as a leather craftsman are almost over, although he still works at the Orv's shoe repair shop in Wayne, and is glad to have someone to whom he can pass on the skills of his trade.

"Boy, this brings back memories," was Lerner's comment on his first visit to the Leicy shop.

Harness leather is purchased in sides, which Leicy then cuts to width for various straps, using a gauge knife to insure proper size.

Straps are creased down both sides with a crank-operated machine. The parallel crease are decorative, but also serve to counter sink stitching.

Hand sewn straps are marked with a pricking wheel, a handle with a rotating wheel on the end, something like a miniature rowl on a cowboy spur. Running the wheel down the creases marks where stitches should be placed for proper spacing.

A special stitching awl is used to punch through the leather and apply the stitches. The pricking wheel is run over the stitches to set them.

The shop is also equipped with a power stitcher which speeds up the process.



# Altona Grew From Store

J.G. Bergt and F.G. Panning, both of Hooper, formed a partnership in 1898, erected a store building on a two-acre tract of land bought from George F. Thies, and located in the southeast corner of section 30, township 25, range 4 in Plum Creek precinct, Wayne County.

The purpose of the partnership was to conduct a general merchandise business. A petition was soon circulated for establishing a post office. The department at Washington, D.C., granted the request and suggested the name of Altona be used. Panning was the first postmaster, appointed to the office.

Helping boost the town was Frank Leuck of Wakefield, who erected and conducted the first blacksmith shop in the fall of 1898. The following year, 1899, George F. Thies, at that time owner of land on the present site

of Altona, moved to a new town, erected a new building and stocked up in groceries, dry goods, hardware, harness and farm implements.

In 1900, Mr. Thies had the townsite of Altona surveyed and the plat put on the county record.

The Bell Telephone Co. built a branch line to Altona from Wisner in 1900. A townhall was added in 1901. George Thies deeded the hall to the Sons of Herman Opera House Co., with C.W. Worth as president. The hall was later destroyed by fire.

Jesse McNish of Wisner and F.G. Panning were instrumental in establishing the Farmers State Bank of Altona in 1908. The bank lot was bought from Robert Roggenbach for \$100. A concrete and stone building was erected and F.G. Panning became the first cashier.

An experienced blacksmith

from Hooper, Henry Hogrefe, conducted business in Altona from 1909 to 1920 when fire destroyed the shop. William Assenheimer was in the implement and automobile business there from 1912 to 1919. Herman Assenheimer conducted the garage until it was disbanded. William Kuss had a garage and Jasper Meyer had a blacksmith shop.

The first general merchandise store was operated by Bergt and Panning from 1898 to 1917. Paul Mueller was the first clerk, serving from 1899 to 1910. The store was sold to W.F. Pflueger in 1917, and later to Wiert and Schultz of Wisnside, in 1918. The new owners sold to J. Jarel of Iowa in 1919. Jarel closed out the stock in 1919 and sold the

building to J.G. Bergt.

In 1920, the Farmers Union Cooperative association purchased the building and put in a stock of goods, employing Detlef Bahde as manager. The store was bought by Fred Hilpert in July of 1927, and Hilpert sold to Daniels brothers in 1935.

Altona's postoffice was discontinued in 1935 and became a part of a Wayne route.

F.G. Panning was cashier of the Farmers State Bank of Altona from 1908 to 1915. Otto Frenzel served from 1915 to 1917, and Victor Trukken from 1917 to 1919. Irving Bahde became cashier in 1919. Several years later the bank closed its doors.

George F. Thies operated his store in Altona from 1899 to 1912

when fire destroyed the building.

On Trinity Sunday, 1881, the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran congregation was organized under the leadership of the Rev. G. Bullinger, in the home of Carl Erxleben, located one and a half miles east and two north of the present church.

The first church was erected in 1886, the rear part of the building serving as the parsonage. The first resident pastor was the Rev. C. John. In 1897, the first parsonage was built.

The church celebrated its Golden Jubilee in 1931.

There are no businesses in Altona at the present time. Services are held at the Trinity Lutheran Church, which is served by the Rev. Carl Broecker.

*Although relatively small, Altona and Sholes were established to meet special needs in the county's commerce and served as vital links in the overall economy of the area.*

To provide a shipping point for the northwest portion of Wayne County, the town of Sholes was established in 1902. The village was named for G.H. Sholes, official of the C. St. P.M. & O.

Robert H. Jones, county surveyor who platted the town on land bought from Mr. and Mrs. J.L. Beaton, surveyed the north and south streets 80 feet wide and the east and west ones 60 feet. Iron markers were placed at the corners of all blocks and fractional parts.

J.L. Beaton established the first residence in Sholes, and had the post office in part of his home. The Marfin Madsen residence, built by A.G. Carlson, appeared next.

The first business to appear in

the new town was the blacksmith shop of A.G. Carlson. The second was the general merchandise business established with Mr. Merrill as manager. Grain elevator, stock yards, lumber yard and another store followed. M. Fritzon managed the elevator which was at first owned by Mr. Devereaux of Minneapolis. Fritzon also served for a number of years as postmaster.

The church in Sholes was built shortly after the town began. One lot for this was donated by J.L. Beaton and the other was bought. Baptist services were held first, then Methodist.

Sholes was incorporated in 1913. The village board included M. Stevensen, W.H. Roff, T.A.

Jackson, Sam Erskine and Emil Tietgen.

In 1937, one of the business firms was the Timlin Grocery with J.P. Timlin, manager. Timlin was also postmaster. Martin Madsen had a barber shop. Hans Tietgen had a service station and repair shop, and Frank Kuhl operated a drink parlor. Isadore Kuhl managed the elevator.

Three businesses operated in Sholes at the present time. The Lamp Lounge is owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Nelson. Don Bauer has Bauer Elevator and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Tietgen operate Tietgen Grocery.

Population of Sholes is 20.



In 1976 the Ellingson name is still new among the businesses of Wayne.

The reason for that of course is that Glen and his son Mark Ellingson have been in Wayne for less than two years. In January of 1975, the father-son combination bought Wolske Auto Service from Ed Wolske ending almost 30 years of ownership by Wolske. Also at the time another son, Bruce, joined Ellingson Motors as the service manager.

Since then another Ellingson son joined the firm. In August, 1975, Ward became the service manager and Bruce moved into the sales department.

Wolske started his business in 1944 as an auto mechanic. In 1946 he expanded his business by taking on a Jeep dealership. That quickly led to the addition of a Pontiac dealership in 1948 and Cadillac was added in 1949.

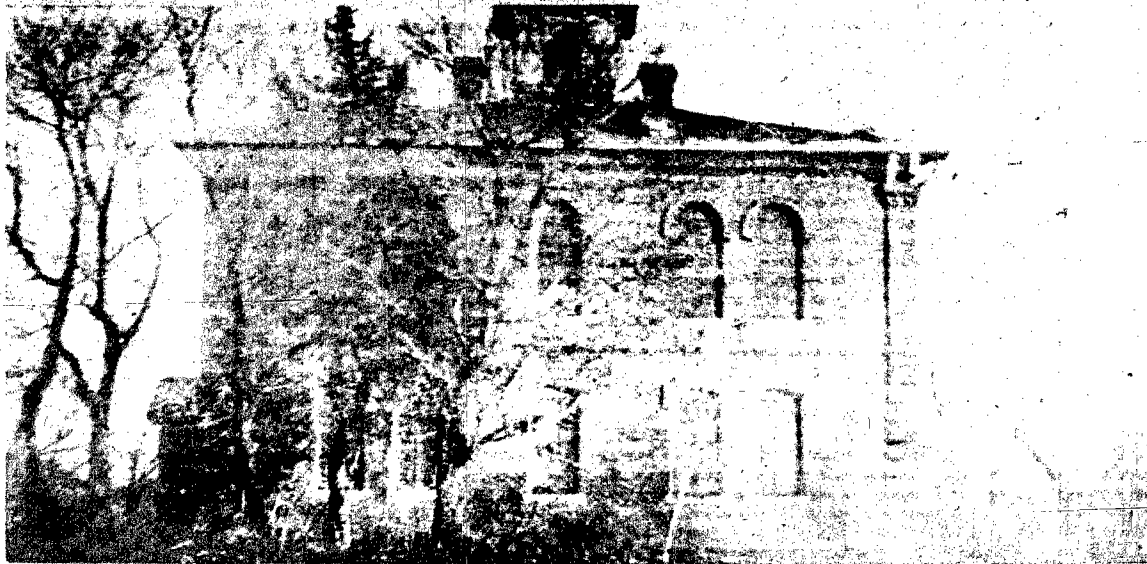
Today Ellingson Motors is a dealership for GMC trucks, Cadillac, Buick and Pontiac.

## WAYNE'S DEALER FOR THE BIG FOUR:

- Buick
- Pontiac
- Cadillac
- GMC Trucks

### Ellingson Motors, Inc.

# County Seat Moved to Wayne; Last Courthouse Occupied 1899



WAYNE COUNTY'S second courthouse, above photo, was this brick structure, built at LaPorte in 1874. The first building to serve as county courthouse was a small frame structure on the C.E. Hunter homestead which was built in

1870 and later converted to a schoolhouse. In 1899, ceremonies were conducted in Wayne, bottom photo, laying the cornerstone of the present courthouse, the fifth building to serve as a courthouse in Wayne County.

By LAVON BECKMAN

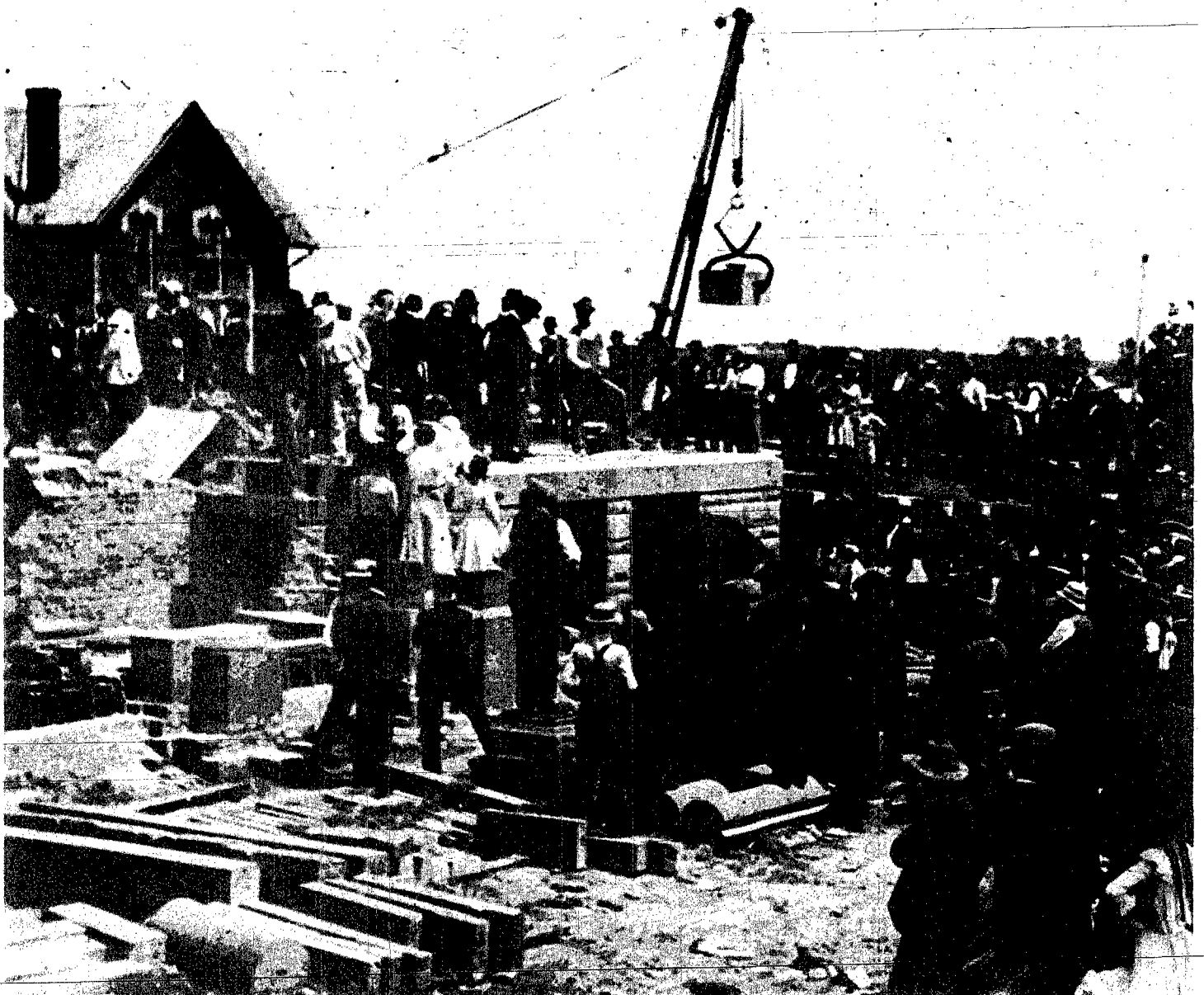
Probably one of the most impressive buildings in Wayne, or in Wayne County, is the courthouse, located at 510 Pearl St.

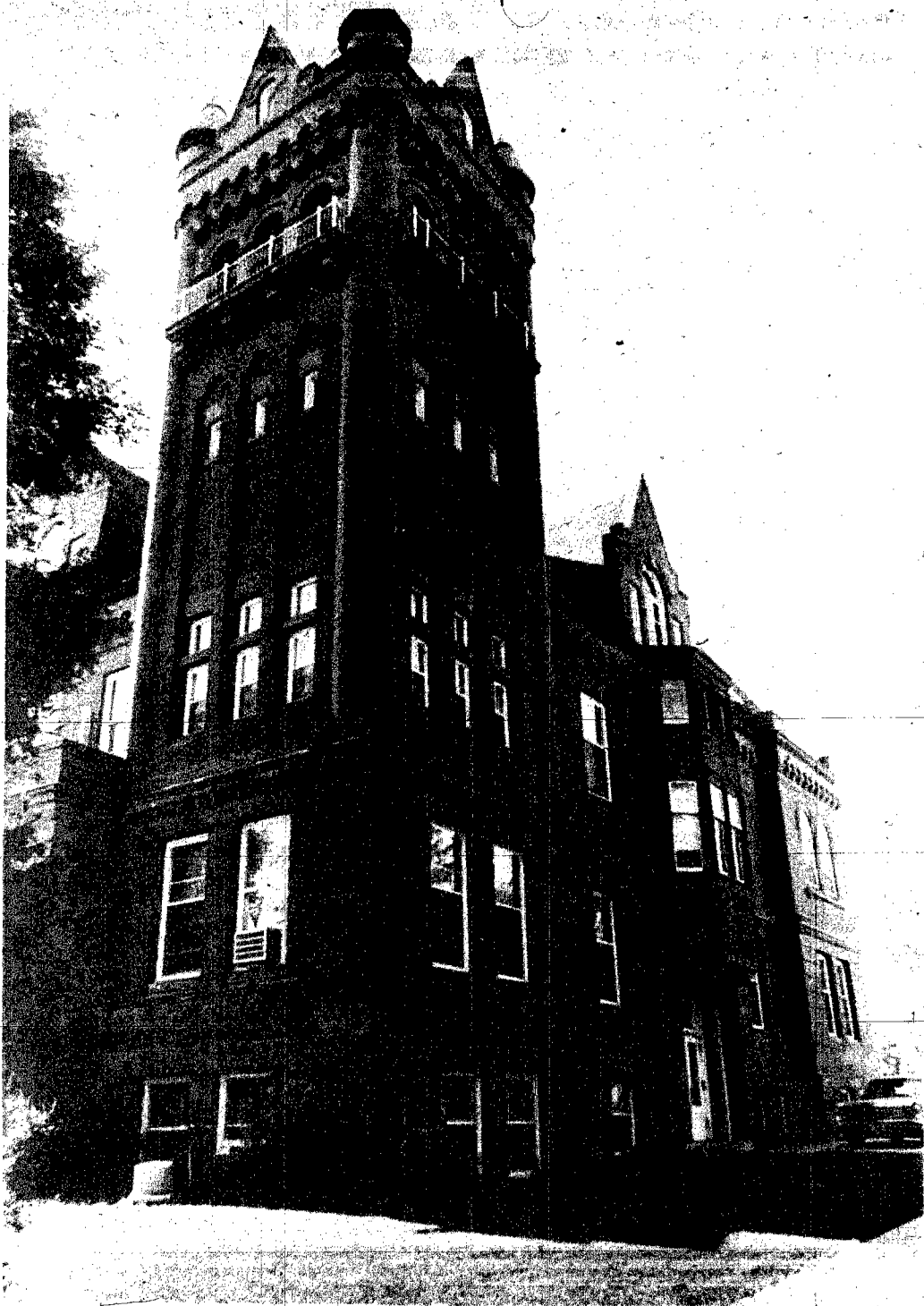
When the original town was platted, Wayne was not the county seat and it was not known that the courthouse would ever be located here.

The first building was a small frame structure on the C.E. Hunter homestead, which was built in 1870. It was later used as a schoolhouse at La Porte. In 1874, the county voted bonds and a brick courthouse was built at La Porte.

After the railroad came through the present townsite of Wayne, a group of men, interested in the removal of the county seat to Wayne, agreed to furnish a courthouse to the county, free of rent, for a period of 10 years. The Town Hall Association was formed and in 1883 a brick veneer structure was erected at a cost of around \$4,000. This was located at Fourth and Main Streets, direct-

(Continued on following page)





## Land Donated For Courthouse

(Courthouse, continued)

ly east of the present Baptist Church. It was occupied as a courthouse in the spring of that year.

On July 4, 1884, the building was destroyed by fire, thought to have been started by a prisoner who was confined in the sheriff's office. Later, it was concluded that it would have been impossible for the prisoner to have been the cause of the blaze, and the origin of the fire remained a mystery.

The only newspaper of the time was printed and published in the building. These files were destroyed, leaving little written evidence of the county history prior to 1884.

The owners of the building collected \$2,500 insurance money and were confronted by their guarantee to furnish a courthouse to the county. They proceeded to erect a structure, using the insurance money. This frame building served as a courthouse for several years.

In 1882, the owners of the Crawford and Browns' Addition donated Block 2 to Wayne County. The deed contained the provision that "the said block be used by the county of Wayne to put county courthouse and other county buildings thereon. Said courthouse to be erected thereon within 20 years from the date of this deed and in case no courthouse of the value of \$5,000 shall be erected within 20 years from this date on said Block 2 aforesaid, the said land shall revert to the grantors."

The sheriff's residence and jail were built on this square in 1885.

On several occasions, an attempt was made to vote bonds for the erection of a new courthouse, but it wasn't until the 20-year period had nearly expired that such a course was taken. Twenty five thousand dollars in bonds were issued and a contract was let for \$26,500 exclusive of fixtures.

The present building was completed at a cost of about \$32,000. Its style of architecture that of Norman chateau.

**THE PRESENT county courthouse was completed in 1899 at a cost of about \$32,000.**

# First Doctor Describes County

R. B. Crawford, one of the first settlers in Wayne County, also described as the most colorful, was the county's first doctor and was active in "getting things going" in first LaPorte and later in Wayne.

In 1876, Crawford was asked to write a newspaper article for the Wayne County Review, the ancestor of the present Wayne Herald, describing his future anticipations for Wayne County and LaPorte a ghost town since 1900.

Crawford's article appeared in the Review in two parts on Aug. 17 and Aug. 24 of that year. The Review was a LaPorte newspaper at that time, because Wayne city was not founded until 1881.

In describing the small town of LaPorte, Crawford noted: "This town, besides being the first located in the county, is the county seat, and with a beautiful and fertile country surrounding it, and a railroad soon to pass through, it is destined to become a business town of marked importance."

Of course, Crawford's prophecy proved false. The railroad

bypassed LaPorte and was laid on the ground where Wayne started.

Here's Dr. Crawford's account of Wayne County as it appeared in the newspaper in 1876.

### HISTORY OF WAYNE COUNTY, NEB.

Having been honored with an appointment to write the history of Wayne County, I reluctantly accept the task, believing that abler hands might have been selected to pen paint the many interesting incidents connected with the early settlement of this beautiful and fertile county, but asking the forbearance of criticism by those who for the past seven years have shared the many ups and downs incident to a pioneer's life in the west.

Wayne County is situated in the northeastern part of the state, and is bounded on the north by Cedar and Dixon counties, on the east by Dixon County, the Winnebago and Omaha Indian reservation; on the south by Cuming and Stanton counties, and on the west by Pierce County.

Geographically, it is in the latitude 42 degrees north and in

the longitude 97 degrees west, and has an area of 444 miles.

The county is wholly a beautiful undulating prairie, with a dark rich alluvial soil, and not five acres of waste or poor land can be found within its borders.

The streams are the Logan Creek, Plum Creek, Coon Creek and a few others of minor importance. But, the principle one is the Logan, which is really a beautiful stream. Rising near the southwest corner of the county, it meanders along with many a crook and turn in a northeasterly direction, receiving on its way several tributaries from the west and the north, and eventually leaving the county about two miles south of the northeast corner.

The stream has high abrupt banks and swift current, and is supplied with an abundance of fine fish. Eventually and probably before long, the banks of this stream will be dotted with mills and factories, for such superior water power as the Logan presents will not long remain without being utilized.

Game of nearly all kinds has been and is still very abundant, and the huntsman here finds rare sport in pursuing the chase. For a few years, previous to

the organization of the territory now comprising this county, the area was under the jurisdiction of Dixon County for judicial purposes. But during the summer of 1870, a petition was circulated through the county which was signed and presented to the honorable David Butler, then governor of the state.

Gov. Butler, in accordance with the law, ordered an election which was held at the home of George Scott on Coon Creek in the eastern part of the county on Sept. 5, 1870, and the following persons were elected officers:

W. E. Durin, M. T. Sperry and Isaac Miner, county commissioners; C. E. Hunter, county clerk; B. F. Whiffen, county treasurer; A. D. Allen, sheriff; A. A. Fletcher, probate judge; William G. Vroman, county surveyor; R. B. Crawford, superintendent public institution; Nathan Allen, coroner; George Hunter, Lathan Miner and R. B. Crawford, judges of election, and Enoch Hunter and George Scott, clerk of election.

Nearly all who were elected qualified and entered upon the duties of their offices. B. F. Whiffen failed to qualify for treasurer and George Scott was appointed to fill the vacancy.

The first action for the erection of a building in which to do county business was taken April 19, 1871, and a house, 18 by 24 feet in size, was erected soon after near the present townsite of LaPorte at a cost of about \$350.

Previous to the erection of the county building, books and papers belonging to the county were kept at the residence of the different officers, and the transaction of a small amount of business often required many miles of travel.

After the building was completed, it was occupied by the treasurer and clerk, and the transaction of county business became more systematic and convenient.

On Feb. 24, 1874, at a special election, bonds to the amount of \$15,000 were voted for the erection of a brick courthouse, 40 by 50 feet in size. On May 16, the contract for the building was let to John P. Wall for \$7,993. After Wall failed to give bonds, the contract for the building was awarded to Sawyers and Leach of Cevington (now South Sioux City) for \$11,993, and the building was completed by Dec. 8, 1874. It has since been occupied by

(Continued on following page)

# Whitten First to Settle in County

(Crawford, continued)

the county officers. The building is located on the public square of LaPorte, the county seat, and is one of the finest in the state.

The first town site was laid out on May 22, 1874, by Solon Bevin on his land on the north half of the northwest quarter of the section 25 in township 26 north of range 4 east, and was named, and is known as LaPorte.

The first house in the county was built by B.F. Whitten about April of 1869, and he has the honor of being the first white man to settle in the county.

During the month of May, 1869, a small colony came from Illinois and settled in the eastern part of the county, most of whom took homesteads on Coon Creek, and, after building their sod "dug outs," did some breaking and made such improvements as would best meet the exigencies of a pioneer life.

From this date the actual settlement of the county began, and of this little band, who first braved the hardships of the actual settler on the western wilds, nearly all remain, possessed of a good farm and proud of the title "the pioneers of Wayne County."

In the spring of 1870, a colony of Germans settled in the southwest township of the county, on spring branch. The colony has since been increasing steadily in number and is now a thriving and prosperous settlement.

Stock of nearly all kinds have been brought in, but farming has been the principle avocation of most of the settlers.

The first census was taken by George Hunter in the spring of 1870 and showed a total population of 180. The first assessment after the organization of the county was made in March of

1871 and showed the valuation of personal property to be \$8,640, and of the real estate \$319,500.

The assessment of 1876 shows the valuation of personal property to be \$13,329.09, and of real estate \$563,722.62, and of town lots \$900,000, a gain of \$149,800.61 since 1871. Deducted from the above evaluation is \$5,900 for 87 acres of trees now under a fine state of cultivation in different parts of the country.

The census returns of 1876 shows inhabitants to be as follows: Germany, 62; Illinois, 38; Nebraska, 55; England, 3; Canada, 10; Pennsylvania, 20; Ohio, 4; Indiana, 7; New York, 15; Maine, 2; Vermont, 6; Denmark, 16; Michigan, 7; Iowa, 9; Scotland, 2; Wisconsin, 31; New Jersey, 5; Minnesota, 2; District of Columbia, 1; Norway, 1; Virginia, 1; Ireland, 1; Kentucky, 1.

The occupation as shown by the report is 71 farmers, two carpenters, one physician, one attorney and two blacksmiths. The number who could neither read nor write is three.

The first wedding which took place in the county was M.T. Sperry, 24 years of age, and Sarah Eayrs, 20, on May 14, 1871 with A.A. Fletcher, probate judge, officiating. Since then there has been 11 marriages consummated.

The first child born in the county was a son to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Phillips on June 1, 1869, near the Logan bridge in the eastern part of the county. The first death was a son of Mr. and Mrs. William Vroman, who died Aug. 6, 1870, at the age of eight months. Seventeen deaths have occurred since.

The first sermon was preached by Mrs. M.B. Richard-

son, at the residence of Alex Scott in September of 1870.

The first law suit occurred in June of 1871 before George Hunter, J.P.

The first blacksmith shop in the county was put up in the summer of 1869 on what is now known as the old Miner place in the eastern part of the county, near the Logan Creek, and consisted of a sod forge, a pair of bellows, a pair of tongs, an anvil and a hammer. The tools belong to Willard Graves, and every man who had work to do was his own blacksmith.

Since then blacksmith shops have been put up in several places, but that of William P. Agler, who is now doing business at LaPorte, is the principle one.

The first regular practicing physician was R.B. Crawford, M.D., who came here the first of June, 1869, and who has been since and is now the only practicing physician in the county.

The first serious case requiring a surgical operation occurred in February of 1873 to A.S. Miner, who had a portion of both feet amputated on account of freezing. G.W. Wilkinson, M.D. of Dakota City, performed the operation.

The first general celebration was held on the Fourth of July in 1871 near the present townsite of LaPorte, and was entered into with a spirit and enthusiasm which made it a day that will be remembered with pleasure as long as the memory of the earliest settlers shall last.

Since that time several celebrations have been held with the spirit of 1776 manifested in a manner to do honor to the sires who fought and died for the freedom which we now enjoy.

The first map of the county

was by William G. Vroman on March 6, 1871, for which he was paid \$20.

The first store was opened up in June of 1872 and kept by C.E. Hunter and Solon Bevin in the west end of the old county building near the present town of LaPorte.

The first school district included the whole county and was organized Feb. 11, 1871, and was known as School District No. 1. The first school meeting was held Feb. 11, 1871, at the residence of C.E. Hunter. The following officers were elected: A.A. Fletcher, moderator; A.S. Miner, director, and George Scott, treasurer. The number of voters present for the election was nine.

In April of 1871, the county was divided into three school districts, in May of 1872 into six, and again on July 1, 1876, into nine. The first census returns on March 21, 1871 showed the total number of children between the ages of five and 21 years of age to be 50 (27 females and 23 males.)

The first teacher examined was Miss Jane Olin on July 1, 1871, who was granted a third grade certificate and taught the first school in District No. 2 during the same summer.

The first schoolhouse was built in School District No. 3 in October of 1871. The contractor was Solon Bevin and the contract price was \$1,400 in district orders. Since then, five more good substantial school buildings have been erected, which are all used, and a credit to the county. No church has yet been built, but public worship is held in the various schoolhouses and in private residences.

The first post office was established Sept. 8, 1870 near the Logan bridge in the eastern part of the county, and was called Taffe. William P. Agler was appointed post master and held

office until October of 1871 when he moved to his farm. O.F. Crance was appointed to fill his place and held office until Jan. 24, 1874 when it was discontinued.

The second post office was established at LaPorte on Feb. 21, 1871, with C.E. Hunter as post master.

This office receives daily mail from the north, east, south and west, and being located in the center of a large settlement, is readily reached by all.

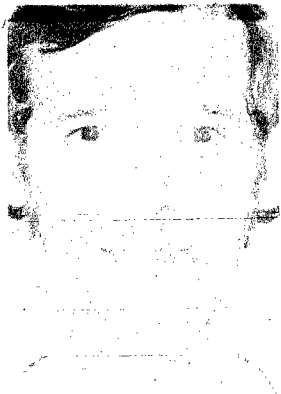
A post office was established at Leslie on Dec. 18, 1871 on the mail route from West Point to Ponca in township 25, range 5. Joseph Boeckenhauer was named post master and held the office until April 12, 1875, when J.W. Maholm was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Boeckenhauer. The office and mail route were discontinued on Oct. 12, 1875.

The first printing press brought in and operated in the county was by C.E. Hunter on Aug. 5, 1876, and he has the honor of printing the first newspaper in the county, The Wayne County Review. It is a weekly paper devoted to the interest of Wayne County.

The finance of the county is in excellent condition. Warrants on all the county funds are at par and have been since the organization of the county, excepting a short time in 1871.

Thus it will be seen from the few statistics given that Wayne County has made sure and positive progress. With present prospects for facilities, and many superior inducements held out to the actual settler this county will soon stand in the front ranks with any in the state.

None but those who have had actual experience in the western pioneer life can judge the pains and pleasures incident to establishing a home on the verge of the borders of civilization.



**HAROLD SURBER**

# DISCOUNT FURNITURE

Phone 375-1885

Easy Terms

Your Furniture Headquarters for N.E. Nebr.

## — HISTORY —

Harold started in the furniture business with his father and brother in 1952. Their store then was located where the present dentist office of Shupe-Wessel-DeNayer is located. In 1958 a fire gutted their furniture store and they relocated in 1959 in their present location. They sold their business in 1967 to Connie Suhr. In 1971 Harold re-opened the furniture business under the name of Discount Furniture.



# Museum Site Chosen

By LAVON BECKMAN  
On June 15, 1953, Dorothy Huse Nyberg met with the Wayne County board to discuss a location for a county museum. It was at that time that the Wayne County Courthouse, located at 510 Pearl St. in Wayne was suggested.

Wightman and Mrs. F.I. Moses were appointed to scout for a suitable location. Later, the Wayne County board met with Judge F.H. Pollock who favored a provision in the courthouse for the museum. The project was presented to the Wayne Woman's Club in September of that year and they agreed to sponsor

In December of 1953, Mrs. Nyberg, Maude Benschopf Auker the museum.  
Jean Boyd and Mrs. Robert Morrow were appointed museum scouts for Winside on Oct. 1, 1953, and Mrs. Levi Roberts and Mrs. Lloyd Morris were appointed for the Carroll area on Nov. 3.

and Ida Reed Moses met with Judge Lyle Jackson, sheriff Hans Tietgen, county clerk C.A. Bard, district clerk David Hamer, and commissioners Emil Meyer, Oliver Reechart and George Stoltz. The women asked that the north portion of the court room be used to display the relics.

The request was granted and the project completed by April 23, 1954. Mrs. Jessie Austin Reynolds was appointed recorder for the museum. A mural on the south wall of the room was painted by Rodney Love in memory of his father, E.R. Love.

The first relics for the museum were presented by Mrs. H.H. Hahn on July 20, 1953.

On Sept. 16, 1954, Dr. James C. Olson, superintendent of the Nebraska Historical Society, addressed the opening of the Wayne County Historical Museum in the court room to an overflowing crowd.

Mrs. Arthur Auker introduced president Dorothy Huse Nyberg and the officers, including Edith Huse Wightman, Jessie Austin Reynolds and Ida Reed Moses.

The courthouse quartet, comprised of R.I. Jones, Jean Boyd, C.A. Bard and George Stoltz sang, and the museum was opened to the public. Lunch was served by Mrs. Earl Oliver, Mrs. Wilmer Griess, Mrs. L.R. Cunningham, Mrs. O.F. Moore, Mrs. Clifford Dahl, Mrs. R.W. Casper, Mrs. Charles Heikes and Mrs. H.A. Welch.

During 1955, the following served as receptionists when the museum was open: Mrs. Auker, Mrs. Reynolds, Mrs. Nyberg, Mrs. Dorothy Kabisch, Mrs. George Noakes, Mrs. H.W. McClure, Mrs. Walter Savidge, Mrs. Mae Young, Mrs. Frank Morgan and Mrs. F.I. Moses.

By April of 1958, 786 antiques had been collected and recorded, and the room was overcrowded. An old wooden pump, a rare article, would be appreciated by the state museum in Lincoln.

The historical group discussed many possibilities for the location of a new museum through the years, deciding on a site on Highway 35 east of Wayne in 1968 when Mrs. Mable Sorensen donated 2.1 acres of land.

The following year the society obtained the former home of Wayne County pioneer physician Dr. George Hess for a museum. The building, which had to be moved to provide room for a new filling station going up in Wayne, was donated by Joe M. Hupp of Norfolk.

However, with funds unavailable to refurbish the museum site, the house has remained empty.

In 1975, the family of the late Rollie Ley offered to give the family house in Wayne to the historical society for use as a

museum, with the stipulation that the county board of commissioners levy a one-tenth mill tax for maintenance of the facility.

Children of the late Rollie Ley are Henry Ley, Mrs. Harold Hein and Mrs. Richard Armstrong, all of Wayne, and Mrs. Mary Alice Champs and Mrs. Milton Auker, residents of California.

Historical society representatives met with the commissioners and made the proposal. The commissioners indicated that they would like to see evidence that the organization represents the entire county before they would be willing to allocate funds for the project.

Later, historical representatives again met with the commissioners and a compromise was reached. County commissioners agreed to grant \$2,000 to the historical society for maintenance and upkeep on the house for one year.

At the present time, the Ley home is being rented by the historical society. The historical group is in the process of requesting a non-profit organization status. Plans call for the house to be turned over to the society when they are officially declared a non-profit organization.

The house, which had remained vacant since the death of Mrs. Gertrude Ley, stepmother of the Ley children, will be dedicated in memory of their father.

The Ley home became the second physician's home to be given to the society. Located at 702 Lincoln St., it was built by Dr. W.C. Wightman in the years 1900 and 1901. The cost figure was in the \$12,000 to \$13,000 area, architect fee not included.

There was only one transfer of title from Dr. Wightman to Rollie Ley in the year 1912.

The home, one of several large homes to be built around the turn of the century, has five bedrooms, and a bath upstairs with a sleeping porch built 20 years later. The large attic was finished and used as a play room.

The home has four fireplaces, one upstairs and three down stairs, designed for burning coal. Woodwork for the rooms and fireplaces include maple, cherry and walnut. The walls of the den are paneled and many of the windows are leaded, some with stained glass. Each fireplace has a different design of carved woodwork, and the inlaid floors downstairs each contain a different design.

The marble tile for the fireplaces came from Vermont. The plumbing and heating was installed by a Sioux City firm. Labor came from Sioux City and Wayne.

In about 1920, a breakfast room and sleeping porch were added which cost a fourth as much as the original house.

The home stands in its original state except for the remodeling of the bathroom.

Plans call for public opening of the new museum during Wayne's Bicentennial celebration in July of this year. The home will be outfitted with fixtures and furnishings from the period in which it was built.

Converting the home into a museum has been undertaken by the Confusable Collectables Questers Club in conjunction with the historical society.

At the present time, 908 articles are recorded in the historical society's store room, including donations from 56 to 170 sources.

Present historical society officers are Mrs. Lucile Larson, president; Mrs. Robert Bergt, vice president; Mrs. Terry Bartling, secretary, and Leon Meyer, treasurer. The group has 175 members and meets each month in Wayne and surrounding towns.



CHILDREN OF the late Rollie Ley offered to give the family home in Wayne, above photo, to the Wayne County Historical Society in 1975 to be used as a museum. Historical Society president Lucile Larson, below, met with county commissioners Floyd Burt, Merlin Beiermann and Kenneth Eddie in January of 1976 to discuss maintenance of the facility.





THE HOME of the late Rollie Ley (left) is being converted into a museum by the Wayne County Historical Society. Photo above shows one of the stained glass windows in the home, an architectural feature popular when the home was built.

## The Little Paper With The Big Circulation



### The Shopper Building At 111 Main

Wayne has had a Shopper in continuous operation for the past 44 years.

The Morning Shopper began in the present building at 111 Main in 1932 under the ownership of Max Hendrickson. The first Shoppers were a mimeograph sheet put out four days a week to all the town and rural routes in Wayne.

From 1934 until 1951 Max's parents, C.H. Hendrickson, ran the Shopper, but Max, along with his wife, Evelyn, returned to the business in 1951 and switched the paper to offset printing. In January of 1969, J. Alan Cramer and Bill Richardson bought what had become a weekly shopper. At that time the circulation of the paper had grown from 1330 in 1932 to 4000.

In June of 1974 Richardson bought full control of the Morning Shopper and remains today as the sole owner. Midway through 1976, the Shopper had a weekly circulation of 5,400 and is delivered on town and rural routes in Wayne, Winside, Carroll, Laurel, Dixon, Concord, Allen, Wakefield and Thurston besides being delivered on rural routes out of Emerson, Belden and Pilger.

Now six full- and part-time staffers operate the office while another 27 persons are employed in the distribution of the Shopper as carriers, supervisors and delivery personnel.

**Morning  
Shopper**

111 Main 375-3850 Wayne, Nebr.

# Wayne Residents Have Much Influence In Shaping Life of Poet, Teacher

By LAVON BECKMAN

"Death cannot rob me of life. I've already lived it. Oh, how I've lived it. Oh how I have loved."

John Gneisenau Niehardt, Poet Laureate of Nebraska, used these words to describe his feelings about death and about life, part of which was spent in the small, rural community of Wayne, Nebraska.

In 1891, the family of John G. Niehardt moved to Wayne from Kansas City. Here he attended Nebraska Normal College, graduating at the age of 16 in 1897. Niehardt wrote such works as an epic cycle of the Indian Wars, "Black Elk Speaks," and an autobiography which includes his 10 years in Wayne, "All is But a Beginning."

When the Niehardt family arrived in Wayne, they lived in a "nice little house" where his mother took in sewing. At school he entered Miss Field's sixth grade class and was promoted

at mid-year to seventh. That same year he wrote his first poem, "The Stubble Haired Boy."

Niehardt was hired as a marble polisher by "professor" R. Durrin, who ran a tombstone shop near the opera house. Durrin had studied with poet-sculptor Thomas Buchanan Read, and because of his interest in the arts was a friend of Judge James Brittain.

Brittain, Durrin and the boy Niehardt had some interesting discussions and Niehardt thought the "sensible community" must have wondered at them. The judge supplied Niehardt with books from his library on Hindu philosophy, and some persons thought their studies proved them "downright infidels."

Durrin, who added much dimension to the young poet's life, loaned him the book, "The Bible of India," which was to give Niehardt his scheme for "The

Divine Enchantment."

From his arrival until the time Niehardt left Wayne, there were many people in this town who played an active part in influencing the young artist and student. James M. Pile, president of the Nebraska Normal College, and later, college president U.S. Conn, had much to do with his education, teaching him

The bell rang twice every 50 minutes, beginning at 6:30 a.m. and ending at 6 p.m. The task was difficult on dark, cold winter mornings, but Niehardt warmed to the responsibility of telling all those people "when to get up, when to eat, and what to do next."

College classes relieved the poet from boredom. He attri-

speech that electrified both the speaker and the audience.

Realizing the greatness of John G. Niehardt, a number of Wayne citizens formed the Niehardt Club in 1920. Honorary members of the club were to include people from all over the world and it was considered an honor to be invited to join. The club held annual meetings, which often highlighted Niehardt as the main speaker in an effort to promote the author's work.

In connection with the Niehardt Club, the Goldenrod, which was in those years the name of the college newspaper, ran a yearly Niehardt Edition, beginning in December of 1920. The editions often featured letters from the author to the club; his works, promotion of his works and critical essays of his writing.

These two honors stimulated many more from the people of Wayne. In 1925 a monument was dedicated to Niehardt in one of the city's parks. On the Wayne State College campus a dorm was named after him, and a faculty member at the college, Dr. J.T. House, was to write the biography of Niehardt, entitled "The Man and the Poet."

Of all the honors which Niehardt was to receive in Wayne, perhaps the most meaningful was the one bestowed in October of 1965. The ceremonies included the unveiling of a bronze bust, the naming of the Niehardt Room in the college library, and the presentation of the distinguished Service Award.

The service award, the highest given at Wayne State, was presented to Niehardt in recognition of his high distinction in letters, for great loyalty to alma mater, and for achievements bringing much credit to the alumni family of Wayne State College.

After leaving Wayne, Niehardt went on to teach in a country school for two terms. He then moved to Bancroft where he worked as a bookkeeper and had many associations with the Omaha Indians. Later, he edited a country weekly, the Bancroft Blade, for three years.

Thereafter he devoted his time to writing fictional and lyric verse, which earned him national fame. During this period he spent time living among the Indians and becoming an authority on their tradition and customs.

In 1912, at the age of 31, Niehardt began writing "Cycle of the West," his major work which took 18 years to complete. A legislative enactment made Niehardt Poet Laureate of the State of Nebraska, a title he retained all through his life, making his reign as Laureate the longest in recorded history.

He was literary editor of the St. Louis Dispatch from 1928 until 1938. Niehardt wrote his last book dealing with Indian life, "When the Tree Flowered," in 1951.

In 1958, his wife, Mona, preceded him in death. The poet spent the remainder of his life living with friends and relatives, teaching at the University of Missouri in Columbia, and touring and lecturing all over the world.

On Nov. 3, 1973, Niehardt died at the age of 92. During his lifetime, he received some 55 honors, including academic honors, literary honors, awards and citations, public honors and appointments, and affiliations and memberships.

Truly, one couldn't attempt to record the history of Wayne without recording, or at least attempting to record, the influence of that poet, author and friend, John Gneisenau Niehardt.

## John Gneisenau Niehardt

### 'The Man and the Poet'

Latin and Greek, but also inspiring him to do his own selfteaching.

Mrs. Niehardt would sew for Mrs. Pile and her daughter at their home in the basement of the college on the hill. One day the professor suggested she send John to them: "He could ring the college bell to earn his tuition."

butes his sense of expectancy to professor Pile, a man he judged to be great but "caught in a pattern too small for him."

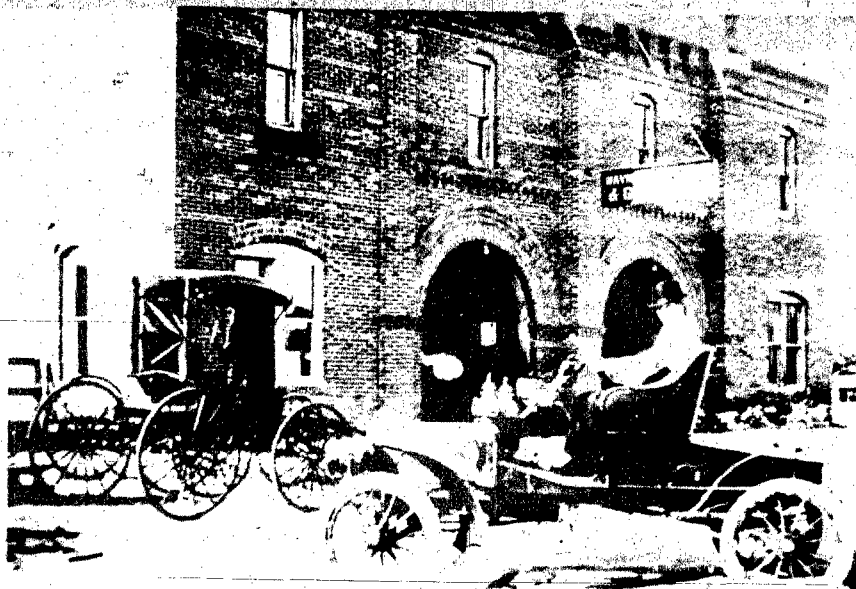
Professor Conn, whom Niehardt held in much regard, would often study past midnight in order to keep up with his student. Later, at Conn's retirement, Niehardt gave an unscheduled and unforgetably inspired



IN OCTOBER OF 1965, John Gneisenau Niehardt, Poet Laureate of Nebraska, was honored at Wayne State College. The ceremonies included the unveiling of a bronze bust, the naming of the Niehardt Room in the college library, and the presentation of the Distinguished Service

Award. The service award, the highest given at Wayne State, was presented to Niehardt in recognition of his high distinction in letters, for great loyalty to the alma mater, and for achievements bringing much credit to the alumni family of Wayne State College.





# 1900's Bring Changes to Wayne City

In preparing the story on Wayne, emphasis has been placed upon the early happenings and conditions of the town prior to 1900.

Of course, the machine age brought about great changes. For a number of years the only automobile in the community was that owned and operated by Dr. H.G. Leisenring. He had several different models of the early types and many persons had their first automobile ride with him.

But by 1908 or 1909, there were a number of machines in the town. Their number steadily increased until today there are about 7,000 motor vehicles licensed in the county. A horse and buggy is as strange a sight today as was Dr. Leisenring's car back then.

And, of course, great changes were made in the business and social life of the community.

In 1885, Walter and Wilt Weber came to Wayne and built a mill that served to store, grain and grind wheat until 1925. Farmers came twice a year, waiting at the mill until the ground grain was sacked, the farmer making payment with a portion of the grain. Later, wheat acreage dwindled and the mill was discontinued.

City Hall was built in 1912 and a modern brick depot in 1914. In

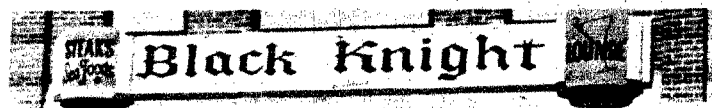
1926 The Wayne Herald moved into a new building and installed new equipment. In 1935 a new brick building and new equipment was provided the Wayne telephone exchange and that same year the federal government granted a building for the post office.

The Wayne Woman's Club sold the old opera house property and started an auditorium fund. With the help of a government loan and grant, the auditorium was built and dedicated in 1936.

Native clay soil was manufactured into brick in many prairie settlements. The Wayne plant was located on south Main and could produce 50,000 bricks a day, baked in large kilns and used for buildings and streets both in Wayne and nearby communities.

Other early businesses include the Wayne Monument Works (1917), supplying a large territory in northern Nebraska; the Wayne Creamery (owned and operated by Edward Seymour); Wayne Ice and Storage Co. (1927), which made seven tons of ice daily from city water and maintained three rural delivery routes that served the area twice a week; Graham Ice Cream Co. (1932); and the Benthack Hospital, established by Dr. Walter Benthack in 1937.

BY 1916, several "motor contraptions" were making their way onto Wayne's streets. Livery stables, including the Palace Livery Stable in Wayne, above photo, were soon to see the end of an era. Clothing of the early 1900's is depicted in the photo at right. The subjects, who are unidentified, were from the Wayne area.



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MRS. ELLA HARRINGTON painted this picture of the old King farm when she was 15 years old. She represents one of two Wayne County families to have received the Pioneer Farm Family Award, presented by the Knights of Ark-Sar-Ben to owners of farms in Nebraska which have been in the same family for 100 years or more.

## Two Wayne County Families Look Back At How They Earned Pioneer Farm Award

By TERI BIGELOW

In the past twenty-one years, "The Nebraska Pioneer Farm Award" has been presented to 1,205 farm families in 57 counties throughout Nebraska.

The Knights of Ark-Sar-Ben and the Nebraska Association of Fair Managers were responsible for discovering and recognizing these families.

A Nebraska farm family whose land has been owned by the same family for one hundred years or more is eligible for this award. There have been two such families in Wayne County, Ella King Harrington of Wayne and Ernest Strate, Jr. of Hoskins.

As Ella Harrington reminisced, she returned to March 3, 1885, where she began the story

of her family's history of their land acquisition.

On this date, Congress passed an act that entitled a veteran of war to 160 acres of land. William Linn, a veteran of the War of 1812, responded to this act and obtained his land in Nebraska. Later he requested that the government sell his land for \$1.25 an acre. About 1869, a group of men on horseback traveled from Jerseyville, Ill., to Nebraska in search of land investments. Reverend George Ives King, D.D., purchased William Linn's patent and became the new owner of the 160 acres of prairie land in Wayne County on Dec. 15, 1871.

During the following years, Rev. King allowed several families to live on the land. In

return these families improved the land and paid the taxes on the acreage. It was not until years later that an original member of the King family moved onto this land. After the death of Rev. King, Mrs. George King and her daughter, Ella Harrington's mother, decided to move from Illinois to Nebraska to be nearer their land. They settled in Lincoln and purchased a home. While residents of Lincoln, Ella's sister married J. Woodward Jones, a pharmacist, and they moved to Wayne County where they lived on the original King land. They built their first home on the land for five hundred dollars.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Woodward Jones were the only family members to ever live on the

original King land. This contrasts greatly with the Strate family history, for they lived continuously on their land for 107 years.

Ernest Strate Jr. reviewed the history of his family's attainment of land by beginning with grandfather and grandmother Strate. They immigrated from the mountain country of southern Germany to the prairie lands of Nebraska in 1869. The Homestead Act of May 20, 1862, allowed them to secure the rights to their land. This act furnished a settler with land, providing that he develop the land within a period of five years.

During grandfather Strate's life in Wayne County, he purchased five other farms through

the Timber Claim Act. This act stated that a settler must plant 10 acres of timber and cultivate the same before the land could be secured. One other act of land attainment passed by Congress received no support from the settlers. This was the Pre-emption Act of Sept. 4, 1841, which allowed a settler to live on the land for a year and then obtain the title by paying \$1.25 per acre.

Grandfather Strate experienced all the hardships of a pioneer life, leaving his future generations with many interesting stories. Ernest Strate Jr. relates one story of how four men from the German Legation of Chicago came to grandfather Strate's farm and arrested him. (Continued on following page)



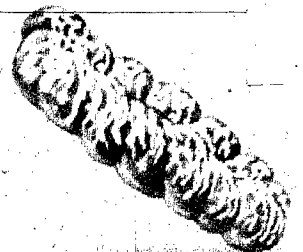
Come In and Have a Fresh Roll and a Pipin' Hot Cup of Coffee

FRIED — Glazed Donuts - Chocolate Donuts  
Sugar Cake Donuts - Bismark - Fried  
Long John - Crispies

BREADS — White - Round -  
Whole Wheat - Butter Crust - Vienna  
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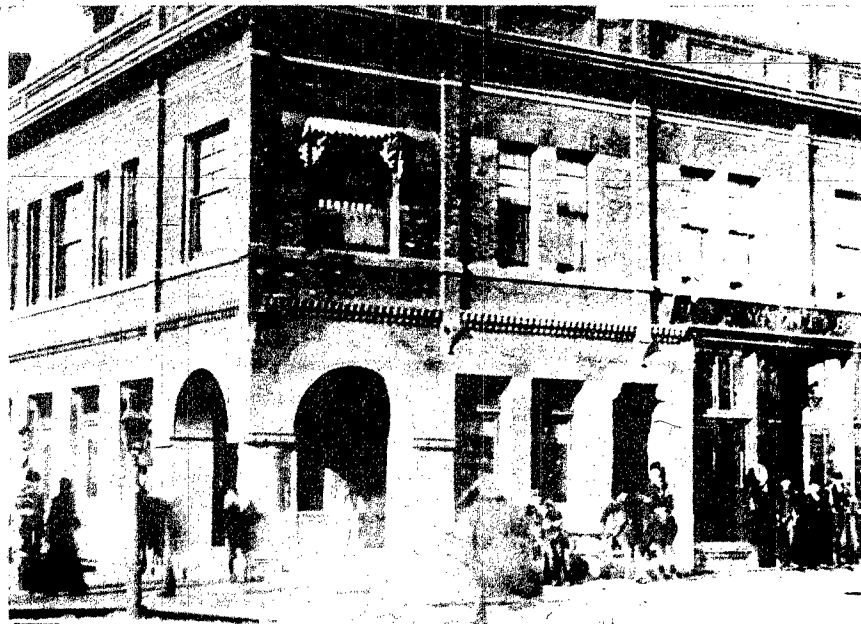
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Vice-President

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**- 1884 -**



**First National Bank**

**- 1976 -**



# Tragedies, Losses Hampered First Pioneers

As in all new and sparsely settled counties, the first pioneers of Wayne County were congenial and friendly, and despite the lack of the usual comforts or necessities, were content with their new lives.

But, they also suffered great tragedies and losses, just like every other pioneer family who came to make their first settlements in Nebraska.

During the early part of the summer of 1870, Oscar Munson, while working his claim on Plum Creek, 10 miles east and nine and a half miles south of Wayne in Leslie Precinct, was

attached by five young Winnebago Indians.

They killed and scalped him, not for malice, but because they wanted to obtain a reputation with their tribe. They were arrested on the Winnebago reservation and were taken to Ponca for trial. It's said that on the day court was held, 200 Winnebagos arrived in Ponca to protect the interest of their tribesmen.

The case was transferred to Washington County where the pair were later convicted and taken to the penitentiary by A. T. Chapin, then sheriff at Blair.

John T. Bessler was breaking the sod with oxen on his homestead only two miles away when the murder occurred, and believed he might have been the victim if the Indians had chanced to come a mile farther west. The government sent a detachment of 20 soldiers and an army wagon under Lieutenant Delaney for the protection of the whites, and they camped all the summer of 1870 on the Munson homestead.

In 1874-75 and 76, a grasshopper plague swept the state. Witnesses said their first appearance resembled a light cloud. They would settle on a cornfield or garden and demolish it in a matter of minutes. Some stories, probably exaggerated, told how they came in clouds dense enough to obscure the sun and settled on the Union Pacific tracks, causing trains to come to a halt.

In 1874 the hoppers destroyed the corn crop and a large part of the small grain. The destruction was general over the state and the next year the state furnished seed corn for the settlers.

The plague was probably not so severe the next two years, but the grasshoppers were still here in large enough numbers to destroy gardens and much of the corn and small grain.

On Oct. 13, 1878, a prairie fire swept through the country. Mrs. W.E. Durin and her daughter, Anna, saw the fire moving toward their home and went out to try to stop it. Mrs. Durin and her daughter were caught in the fire and died that day.

During 1877, Simon Gehle of Springbranch (Hoskins) Precinct, had been absent in Dakota Territory. He let his wife and Ferdinand Schulz, the hired

man, at home to take care of his farm. Soon after his return he was found shot to death.

On Sept. 11, 1877, A.D. Allen, the coroner, was called to hold an inquest over the dead man's body. The jury consisted of Solon Bevins, Cyrus E. Hunter, John T. Bessler, Theodore Barhardt and Charles Green. Michael Braasch, Frederick Schroeder, Frederick Strate, Gustav Miller, Dr. Alexander Bair and Dr. F.B. Daniels were called as witnesses.

It was contended by Gehle's wife and Schulz that as Gehle reached onto a shelf to get his gun, it accidentally exploded and killed him. The coroner's jury was about to rule that he had died accidentally when one

of them turned over the body and found that he'd been shot in the back. Schulz and Mrs. Gehle were arrested and indicted by the grand jury for murder.

James Britton and R.T. Marlowe of Fremont were employed to defend. A change of venue was secured to Cuming County because it was learned that of the 86 male persons over 21, eligible for jury duty, nearly all were disqualified for service.

The case was tried at West Point and at the April term, in 1878, both Schulz and Henrietta Gehle were convicted. They were sentenced to La Porte on April 6, 1878, and taken to the penitentiary by sheriff Joseph W. Agler.

## Families—

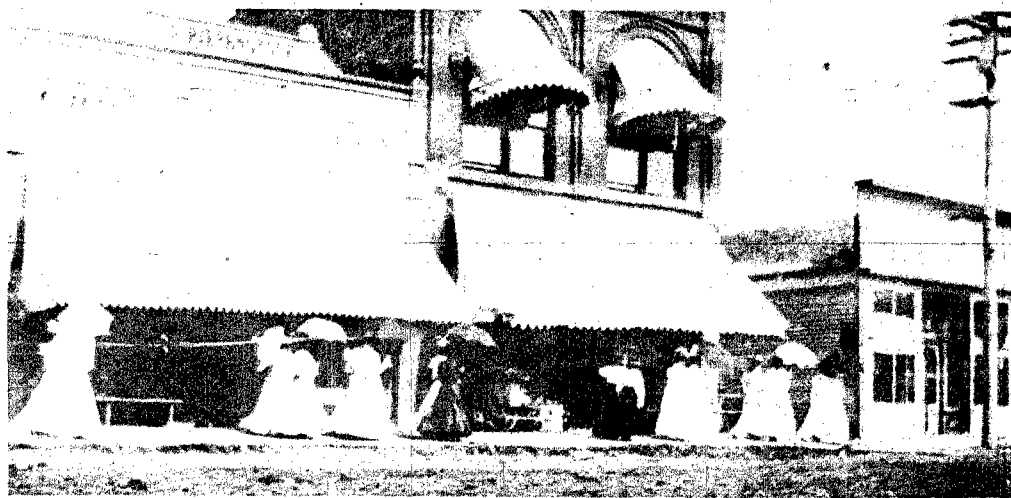
(Continued from preceding page) men put Strate in chains and took him to Omaha. Germany and France were at war and grandfather Strate was expected to return to Germany to serve in the army. As the men sat in the train station at Omaha, a policeman became curious at the sight and decided to investigate.

The policeman questioned the men holding Strate prisoner and they explained the story. Strate also explained to the policeman that this was unlawful, for he was an only son and not obligated to serve in the military. At the policeman's request, all of these men found themselves in the presence of the United States commissioner. The commissioner asked that Strate be released. He was set free and he walked from Omaha to his homestead in Wayne County.

Grandmother and grandfather Strate raised six children on their prairie farm. When grandfather Strate died in 1910, his son Karl took over the farm.

Karl Strate married Louise Puls and together they experienced the depression of the 1930's. Karl's son Ernest acquired the farm after his father's death and has lived on the land near Hoskins for 66 years. Before grandma Strate died in 1918, she told her grandson Ernest that he had a long and interesting career ahead of him. She said that he would stand before governors and kings and presidents and would most likely return to the land from which she came.

Grandmother Strate's prophecy came true, for Ernest has traveled to eighteen nations and befriended several governors and presidents. When Ernest Strate's four sons asked him what he was doing in these other nations, he replied, "I was looking for your mother." Ernest met his wife in 1950 while visiting Europe. Mark, the Strate's youngest son, plans to someday take over the operation of what is now the oldest homestead in Wayne County.



1904 STREET SCENE



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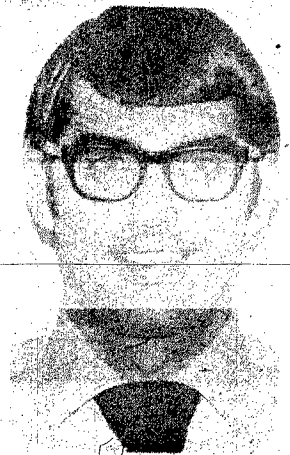
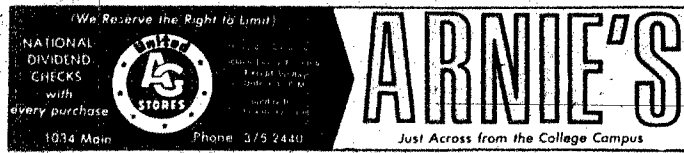
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**ARNIE REEG**



**BILL REEG**

**— HISTORY —**

***Arnie started the Grocery Store on December 15, 1949. It was 1,000 square feet in size and there was a small cafe beside it which he also ran. In 1954 and again in 1964, Arnie remodeled his store to the present size. After graduating from Wayne State College and serving in the Marine Corps for 2 years, Bill joined his father in the Grocery Business in 1967.***



**Arnie's 1949**

**Arnie's  
1976**



# Opera House Was Center For Community Activities

The opera house was the hub of community activities in Wayne's early days. The frame structure was built on the corner of Fifth and Main streets.

Show troupes from eastern centers, home talent plays, concerts by bands and other musical groups, campaign speeches and patriotic addresses furnished a variety of entertainment.

The old opera house was built in 1889 from subscriptions taken under the leadership of Judge

H.H. Moses. The three lots, building and furnishing cost about \$3,600. To finance the proposition, 10 men put \$500 each into a fund. This not only paid the costs, but provided money to handle expenses for a time. O.B. Kortright and Ernest Piepenstock, Wayne contractors, erected the structure.

A pony show was the first attraction in the opera house, according to C.M. Craven. The Andrews Opera company fami-

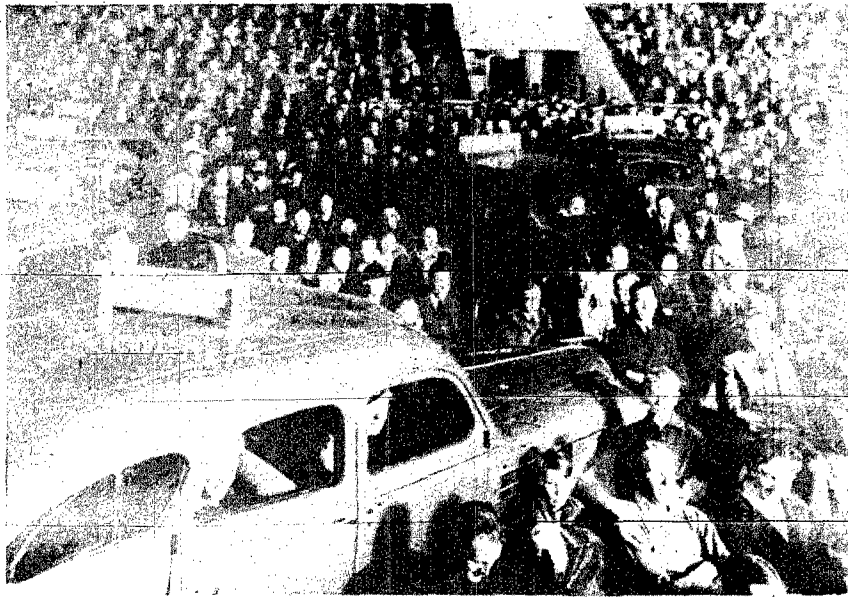
liarized Wayne with the comic opera, "Mikado." John Dillon was a popular comedian in "Wanted, the Earth." An occasional Shakespearean play made members of the local Shakespearean Club appear to hold advantage in dramatic lore over the rest of the community. The house was a center for famous lecturers and evangelists, including Sam Jones who conducted a revival which lasted for weeks.

Later, Judge James Brittain became sole owner of the opera house. He managed attractions until his death when the building was bought by the Wayne Woman's Club. The club eventually sold the property.

When the era of the opera house came to an end, citizens realized the need for a community auditorium. Residents voted Sept. 5, 1933, to issue bonds. A site was bought at Third and Pgarl streets.

Wayne's Woman's Club furnished \$6,000 to start the auditorium fund. Government loan and grant provided the rest and Wayne's new auditorium became a reality. The \$70,000 building was dedicated Jan. 17, 1936.

The auditorium provides seating capacity for 1,500 and a stage. The Woman's Club has rooms in the building, and Hazel's Beauty Shop is also located in a portion of the structure.



THE OLD OPERA house in Wayne (center of picture on opposite page) was built in 1889 under the leadership of judge H.H. Moses. Residents later voted to issue bonds to build the city auditorium, still in use. Photo at left is of the Finn Auto Show in the auditorium, shortly after it was completed in 1936.

Drama,  
Lectures,  
Evangelists,  
'Mikado'  
Were Opera  
House  
Features

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**Wayne Opera House — 1889**



**Dennis Townsend**

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**Ken Soden**

**— HISTORY —**

Gibson Store was opened in Wayne in Nov. of 1972. It has nearly 30,000 square feet of space and offers customers everything from soft goods to foods to health & beauty aids and recently a pet shop was added. Clyde Manbeck was the first store manager and he was assisted by Ron Reed and Steve Fleck. The present manager is Dennis Townsend, an Iowa native and his assistant manager is Kenneth Soden from Wayne.





# LES' STEAK HOUSE

Phone 375-3300

Hotel Morrison

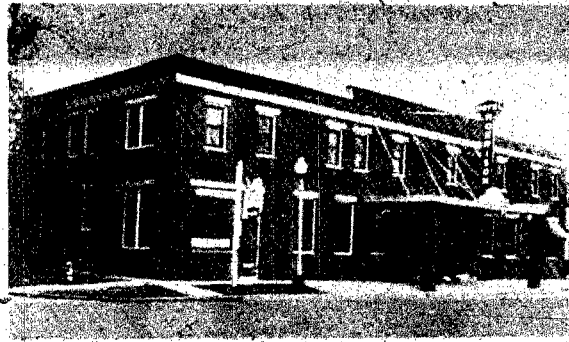


Les' Steak House was originally called the Stratton Hotel and was built in 1928 as a community enterprise at a cost of approximately \$53,000. Professor E.J. Huntmer did considerable designing and Homer S. Scace was the General Contractor.

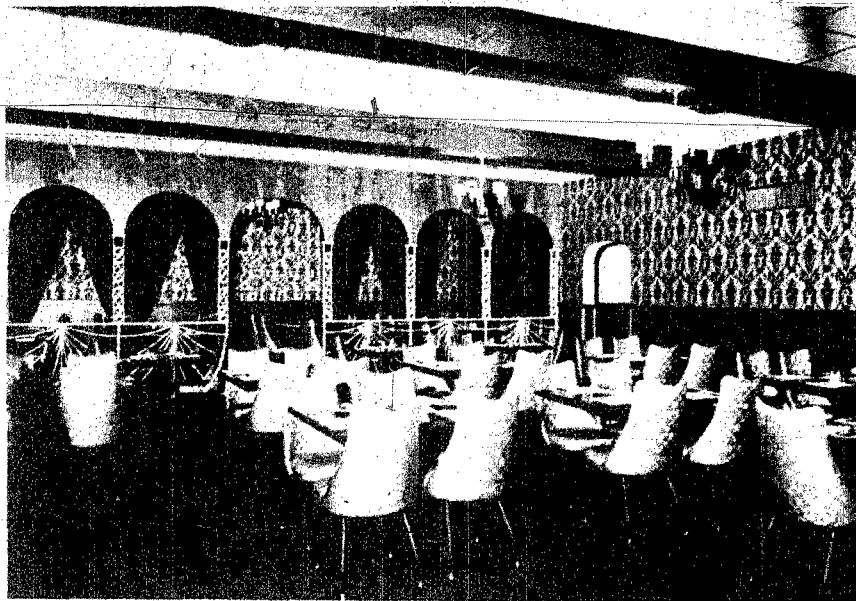
The formal opening was held Saturday, Nov. 24, 1928 and E.O. Stratton was hired to manage the new establishment.

Les and Donna Luft purchased the business from Conrad Suhr in 1968.

## 1935 Picture of Hotel Morrison



## Interior of Steak House



## 1976 Picture of Les' Steak House





# County Government Serves as Backbone

A government can operate only as efficiently as the people who comprise it. For that reason, The Wayne Herald staff decided to take a look at the officials of the Wayne County government.

A brief sketch is provided for each of the officials, along with some insights as to what their jobs demand, and how the demands are changing.

## Norris Weible County Clerk

Norris Weible was elected county clerk in 1966. A Wayne County native, he was a Winside grocer from 1935 to 1950, when he moved to Wayne to operate the Nu Tavern.

In 1963, Weible joined the State National Bank staff where he was insurance and Triangle Finance manager until his election.

A past president of the State Association of County Clerks, Weible is presently a member of the board of directors of the organization, and a member of the International Association of County Clerks.

He is also a Wayne representative on the Region 11-25 Crime Commission, and is the group's secretary. He also serves as secretary-treasurer of the Wayne Izaak Walton league, and as acting secretary of the Wayne County joint planning commission.

As county clerk, Weible serves as the county's chief election officials, and said that task has become more complex since he took office, because of changes in state election laws. State and federal regulations have also

been responsible for a tremendous increase in the number of reports and forms which must be completed by his office.

## Leon Meyer County Treasurer

County Treasurer Leon Meyer was elected to office in 1970, after running the Altona store for 21 years.

Previous to that he farmed in Wayne County for 26 years. He is a native of the county, and, in fact, has never lived outside of the Plum Creek precinct.

Meyer is president of the Northeast Nebraska County Treasurers Association, and serves on the legislative committee, of the State Association of County Treasurers.

He is also a member of the board of directors of the Wayne Kiwanis Club, and will become vice president in October. He is treasurer of the Wayne County Historical Society.

Cash flow problems within the state government have caused the most dramatic change in the operation of Meyer's office since he was first elected. Nebraska counties receive a number of payments from the state coffers,

and those payments were originally made once or twice yearly. Because cash flow problems have meant the state does not always have large sums on hand when the payments were due, now, as many as twelve payments are made for the same funds each year, increasing the work load at the county level.

Meyer and other county treasurers across the state also began this year implementing staggered motor vehicle registration, designed to spread that work load more or less evenly through the twelve months, rather than have all registrations completed in January or February as was previously the case.

## Laverna Hilton County Judge

Laverna Hilton was appointed associate county judge in 1973, but her association with the county-level judicial office goes back to 1945.

She became clerk for the



LAVERNA HILTON

county court that year, serving under judge J.M. Cherry, and later, William Crossland and David Hamer. She was elected county judge in 1969.

Then, in 1973, the judicial system was reorganized into two districts, with each district having from one to three judges, and each county having an associate judge. Mrs. Hilton was appointed associate judge by the Nebraska Supreme Court.

Originally from Chancellor, S.D., near Sioux Falls, Mrs. Hilton moved to Wayne in 1939, and in 1941 married Merton Milton, now employed at Coryell Auto in Wayne. The Hiltons left Wayne during his military service in World War II, returning only a couple of months before she became county court clerk in September, 1945.

Mrs. Hilton said new legislation constantly changes the law of the state and one of the biggest tasks of an associate judge is to be aware of what those changes are.

## Doris Stipp County Assessor

County assessor Doris Stipp first joined the assessor's staff in 1963, and became deputy assessor in 1967. Henry Arp resigned from the post in June, 1973 and Mrs. Stipp was appointed to fill his unexpired term. She was elected to office in 1974.

That was an eventful year for county assessors in Nebraska. The Unicameral passed a law then requiring an update of land appraisals across the state and the law has made Mrs. Stipp's first term a busy one. She opted to complete the task from within her office, rather than contracting with an outside firm, and local people are currently in the process of listing property for valuation. The new appraisal must be completed by Jan. 1, 1978.

In 1969, the state legislature also took a step to insure the ability of assessors, passing a law requiring that they and their

(Continued on following page)



NORRIS WEIBLE



LEON MEYER



Old Station In 1963 Just Before Destruction

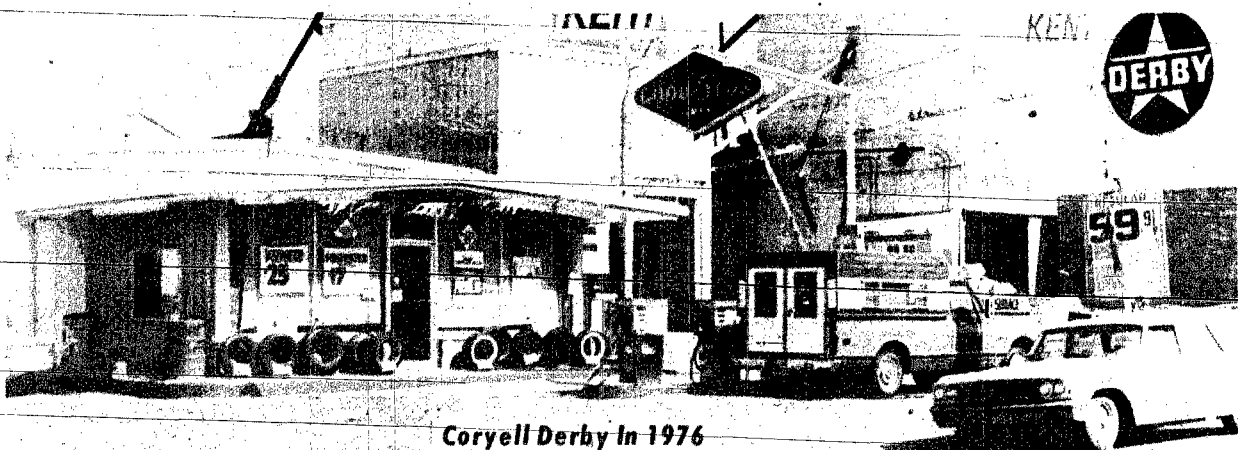
Coryell Derby has been at its location at 211 Logan since 1934. In that year W.C. Coryell bought the business from M.E. Way, who also ran a service station at that location.

In 1963, the original brick station was demolished and the present station built. The business was originally called the Coryell Auto Oil Company but over the years the name has been changed to Coryell Derby.

Lee Tietgen has been the manager of Coryell Derby for about the last 15 years.

## CORYELL DERBY

211 Logan — Phone 375-2121



Coryell Derby In 1976



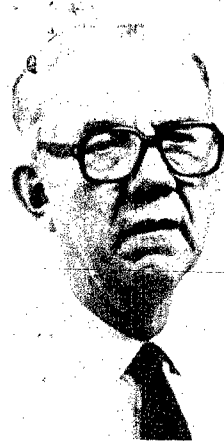
DORIS STIPP



DON WEIBLE



JOANNE OSTRANDER



FRED RICKERS



DON SPITZE

## County Officials

(Continued from preceding page)

deputies pass a certification test. Mrs. Stipp was certified in 1970 while deputy assessor, and also attend a one-week training course in Lincoln each year, also required by law.

She is a member of the Nebraska Association of County Assessors, and also holds a district office. She is now vice president of the Northeast Nebraska Assessors Association, and will become president in 1977.

Mrs. Stipp is also a member of the International Assessors Association Organization. She and her husband, Harold Stipp, own their home in Wayne, and Mr. Stipp is owner of the Farmers Elevator in Wakefield.

### Don Weible Sheriff

Don "Butch" Weible was elected sheriff in 1958. A native of Wayne County, he had operated a tavern and a sundries store in Winside from 1946 until his election. He graduated from Winside High in 1940, and served with the 94th Infantry during World War II.

Weible was president of the Nebraska Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association in 1975 and now, as immediate past president, is chairman of the board for the organization. He has also served on the organization's legislative and summer camp committees, and is now a member of

the nominating, executive and legislative committees.

Other affiliations include the National Sheriffs Association, the American Legion post in Winside, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Wayne.

The sheriff's department has undergone considerable change since Weible took office. It was a one man operation in 1958, with the jail located in a old building on the courthouse property in Wayne. A new jail and sheriff's residence were finished in 1966. Scotty Thompson became Weible's deputy that year, after serving on the Wayne police force since 1954. Both are graduates of the state law enforcement training center at Grand Island.

The sheriff's department will be expanding considerably within the next year. A \$40,000 federal grant will make possible hiring three additional deputies and a day-time dispatcher. The grant also covers cost of training and equipping the additional deputies and purchase of three patrol cars.

The expanded department will provide consolidated law services for Wayne County, providing police protection for Winside, Carroll and Hoskins, as well as rural areas of the county.

### Joanne Ostrander Clerk of District Court

Joanne Ostrander was elected clerk of the district court in Wayne County in 1974. She is a native of the county and maintained her legal residence in Wayne County during a period when she lived in Omaha.

Mrs. Ostrander attended Wayne State College for two years and in 1964 returned to the campus where she worked four years as a secretary. She was a secretary at KTCH radio in Wayne from 1968-70.

Mrs. Ostrander is a member of the Nebraska Association of Clerks of District Courts, and currently is a member of the organization's legislative committee.

She was also a leader for five years with the Hi Raters 4-H Club in Wayne County.

### Fred Rickers Superintendent

Fred Rickers was elected Wayne County education superintendent in 1970, after retiring from the Wayne-Carroll school system, where he had served for 18 years, including 12 as superintendent, and five as an assistant coach, and science and math teacher.

Rickers was school administrator and teacher for 43 years before becoming county superintendent. He received his bachelor's degree from Peru State College and later a master's degree in education from Nordent State College at Greeley, Colo.

Rickers is a member of the Nebraska County Superintendents Association. During his career as an educator he was a member of the Nebraska State Education Association, the National School Principals Association, and the Nebraska School Administrators organization. He has served as a member of the latter group's planning committee.

### Don Spitze Agriculture Agent

Don Spitze was appointed as Wayne County agricultural agent in 1973 by the county extension board.

A native of Kinsley, Kans., he began his career in extension work in 1957 as an assistant agent in Pawnee County, Kansas. A year later, he became an agent in Johnson County, Kans., and remained at that post until 1964, when he returned to school at Colorado State University, where he earned a masters degree in extension education.

He then worked as an appraiser for Doan's Agriculture Service in St. Louise, until 1967, when he became Thurston County agent at Wallhill. He remained there until his appointment in Wayne County.

Spitze belongs to the state and national county agent associa-

tions, is a member of the Wayne Kiwanis club, and a member of the Wayne Methodist Church.

He said extension work has changed greatly since he first became a county agent because of the tremendous technological advances made. For example, Spitze pointed out, pesticides were just becoming popular when he began his career, and there were only a few kinds available.

Today, countless types of pesticides are in common use and county agents must be able to find the answers regarding use.

### Merlin Beiermann Commissioner

Merlin Beiermann is a Wayne County native and has operated his farm southeast of Wayne since 1953. He is serving his first term as a county commissioner, having been elected in 1974.

In his position as a member of the Wayne County board of commissioners, Beiermann sits on the mental rehabilitation board of both the seven-county district and 22-county region.

He is a member of the Nebraska State Board of County Officials.

### Floyd Burt Commissioner

Floyd Burt was elected to the Wayne County board of commissioners in 1970 and reelected in 1974.

Originally from Knox County, Burt lived in Pierce County immediately prior to his move to Wayne County in 1964.

Burt has farmed in all three counties where he has lived and was employed in the construction business by Thiesen Brothers of Osmond for a number of years. While working for the North Atlantic Construction Co. in 1952, Burt helped build the United States Air Force Base in Thule, Greenland.

Burt is a past president of the Northeast District Nebraska County Officials organization, is president of the Mid-Elkhorn Valley Council of governments, and is on the district advisory

board for Title 20 under a federal welfare act.

### Ken Eddie Commissioner

Ken Eddie was appointed to fill an unexpired term on the Wayne County board of commissioners in 1970 and was elected to the board in 1972. Is running for reelection in the November general election, unopposed so far.

Eddie, a life-time county resident, has farmed north of Carroll for 41 years. He is a member of the social service board of directors for Region IV and is chairman of the welfare board. He is also a member of the Nebraska State Association of County Officials.

### Thelma Moeller Welfare Director

Wayne county's board of commissioners appointed Thelma Moeller welfare director in August, 1972, after she had served as a case worker in Thurston County for nine months.

A 1969 graduate of Midland College in Fremont, with a bachelors degree in sociology, Miss Moeller, a Pender native, has also worked at a children's home in Andover, Ill.

She is a first vice-president in the State Association of County Welfare Directors and is a past president of the Northeast Nebraska district association.

This is a period of rapid change in welfare administration Miss Moeller said. For example, recent major changes have shifted programs such as aid to dependent children and aid of the elderly from state programs to the federal social security system.

Miss Moeller, who was required to pass a state merit exam in order to qualify for her position, said she foresees constant change in welfare administration. "We don't always know month-by-month what the programs will be."

"We try to do our best for people who are really in need."



MERLIN BEIERMANN





FLOYD BURT



KEN EDDIE



THELMA MOELLER



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### A Tribute To Neihardt

IN 1925, a monument was dedicated to Nebraska Poet Laureate John Gneisenau Neihardt in Bressler Park in Wayne. Among those attending the unveiling ceremony on Aug. 19, 1925 (photo above) was Neihardt's mother, Mrs. Alice Neihardt. The inscription reads "To John Gneisenau Neihardt, Epic Poet Laureate of Nebraska and the prairies. Author of 'The Song of Hugh Glass,' 'The Song of Three Friends' and 'The Song of the Indian Wars.' This monument is erected in the home of his boyhood by the Neihardt Club and the citizens of Wayne as a perpetual reminder of the glory of our country as revealed in the poetry of him who has honored us and whom we honor."



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# Illinois Pioneers Buried At Old LaPorte Cemetery

The history of Wayne has its roots in the settlement around the old town of LaPorte. In fact, Wayne was really started at LaPorte, and then the railroad finally came through the country, forcing the inhabitants to move.

We can learn much about early Wayne County life from the stories behind the graves at the LaPorte Cemetery, located two miles south and three and a fourth miles east of Wayne.

Many of those interred at the cemetery were members of the 22 families who came from Paw Paw, Ill. in 1869 and 1870. Some lie in unmarked graves or have

been moved elsewhere, but this is the history of the deaths according to Dorothy Huse Nyberg, author of "The History of Wayne County."

On May 5, 1870, 18-year-old Oscar Harmon froze in a blizzard while bringing firewood and family furnishings from Homer. The spring had been wet and that year's party of emigrants had left family and furnishings at Homer while the men came on to stake out claims and build temporary shelter. The Harmons had a dugout on Logan Creek.

The next year, 1871, brought the deaths of William Hunter,

baby Maud Richardson who died of scarlet fever, 20-year-old Charles Durin, and one-month-old Wilberton Hunter, son of C.E. Hunter.

C.E. Hunter was part owner of the county's first newspaper, The Wayne County Review. He also served as county judge, county clerk and postmaster at LaPorte and, later, at Wakefield.

The W.E. Durins gave part of their land for LaPorte Cemetery. Durin's son, Charles, had been killed by a falling tree. William Hunter, 42, and a Civil War veteran, was another blizzard victim.

John Olin, 40, died in 1872. History makes no mention of the Olin name except for Jane Olin, Wayne County's first school teacher. The school was held in the C.E. Hunter home, which also served as a store and court-house.

The year 1873 brought the deaths of 61-year-old Caroline Miner and two small children, Clyde Agler and Willie Scott, or "Our Little Willie" to his parents and persons familiar with the cemetery.

The Graham family bore the brunt of the grief during the next two years. Lulu Jerusha died in 1874 at the age of nine

months, and Lela May was five months old when she died the following year.

The Centennial year 1876, saw the death of 90-year-old Nathaniel Allen, a veteran of the War of 1812. Originally from Maine, he had come to Nebraska with his sons, Alonzo and Harrison, who were veterans of the Civil War.

John Englert, age 65, and Wilson Durin, 54, one of the first county commissioners, also died in 1876.

The Durin family suffered two more deaths in 1879 when Betsy and her daughter, Anna, died fighting a prairie fire. Betsy had tried unsuccessfully to wrap Anna's head in some of her clothing. About this same time, Allan Durin was killed when he was struck by lightning at Holdrege where he worked. Apparently one daughter, Alice, remained of the family.

Diphtheria took one-year old Minne Belle Hunter, daughter of Enoch and Rebecca Hunter, in 1879, and three-year-old Alice Townsend died that fall.

The only death recorded in 1881 was that of Benjamin Harmon, the father of Oscar Harmon.

In 1882, Lina Richardson died at the age of 36 and another infant, Clarence Hunt, died of diphtheria.

In 1884 another baby, Harry Skiles, died, and 10-year-old Patience Hunter, daughter of the Enoch Hunters, was the second child they lost in five years.

George Hunter, who died in 1888, built some of the first bridges across Logan Creek and had been county assessor and Justice of the Peace for Coon Creek District.

The last three burials at LaPorte Cemetery were those of Anna Miller, in 1890, baby Jacob Cooper in 1893 and Enoch Hunter, veteran of the fourth Illinois Calvary and former county clerk and judge, in 1910.

Although the first 10 years of the county witnessed the arrival of numerous hardy families who did manage to survive the rigors of pioneer life, this is the account of those remembered few who journeyed to Nebraska where they now lie among friends and relatives from their homes in Illinois.



Gravestones  
Reflect  
History of  
Wayne  
County

LAND FOR LaPorte Cemetery, located two miles south and three and a fourth miles east of Wayne, was donated by the W.E. Durins, one of the first families to come to Wayne County from Paw Paw, Ill., in 1869 and 1870. In 1976, a special Bicentennial memorial service was held at the pioneer cemetery. The Teen Supremes 4-H Club was

responsible for grooming the grounds and the Peppy Pals 4-H Club placed flags on the graves of the deceased veterans. The wreaths which decorated the graves were made by the Gingham Gals. Mrs. Lella Maynard delivered the address honoring the pioneer veterans.

# 1936 To 1976 40 Years of Progress



## FIRST STAFF OF WINSIDE STATE BANK

George S. Farran, President  
C. E. Benschopf, Vice-president  
E. T. Warnemunde, Cashier

## PRESENT STAFF

E. T. Warnemunde, President  
Chas. D. Farran, Chairman of Board  
David Warnemunde, Exec. Vice-president & Cashier  
Greta Grubbs, Ass't. Cashier  
Lou Ann Jensen, Teller  
Lynn Lessman, Teller

## SEASONAL

Dorothy Aurich, Income Tax Consultant

## OFFICERS & EMPLOYEES

From Left to Right, Lynn Lessmann, Nancy C. Warnemunde, Dave Warnemunde, Charles D. Farran, E.T. Warnemunde, Greta Grubbs, Lou Ann Jensen.

# We Are Proud to be a Part of Winside's History



Bank Building 1936 to 1970



New Expansion June 1, 1970

## FIRST STATEMENT OF CONDITION

### REPORT OF CONDITION OF The Winside State Bank

of Winside, Nebraska, Charter No. 1636 in the State of Nebraska  
at the close of business March 4, 1936

ASSETS	
Loans and Discounts	\$11,876.85
Bonds and securities (exclusive of cash reserve)	3,013.43
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	2,750.00
Cash in Bank and Due from National and State Banks subject to check	\$34,808.86
Checks and items of exchange	227.76
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$52,676.59</b>
LIABILITIES	
Capital stock (common)	\$10,000.00
Surplus fund	2,500.00
Undivided profits (Net)	328.64
Individual deposits subject to check	\$39,847.95
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$52,676.59</b>

STATE OF NEBRASKA }  
COUNTY OF WAYNE } ss.

I, E. T. Warnemunde, Cashier of the above named bank do solemnly swear that the above statement is a true and correct copy of the report made to the Department of Banking.

ATTEST:

GEO. S. FARRAN, Director  
C. E. BENSCHOPF, Director

E. T. WARNEMUNDE, Cashier

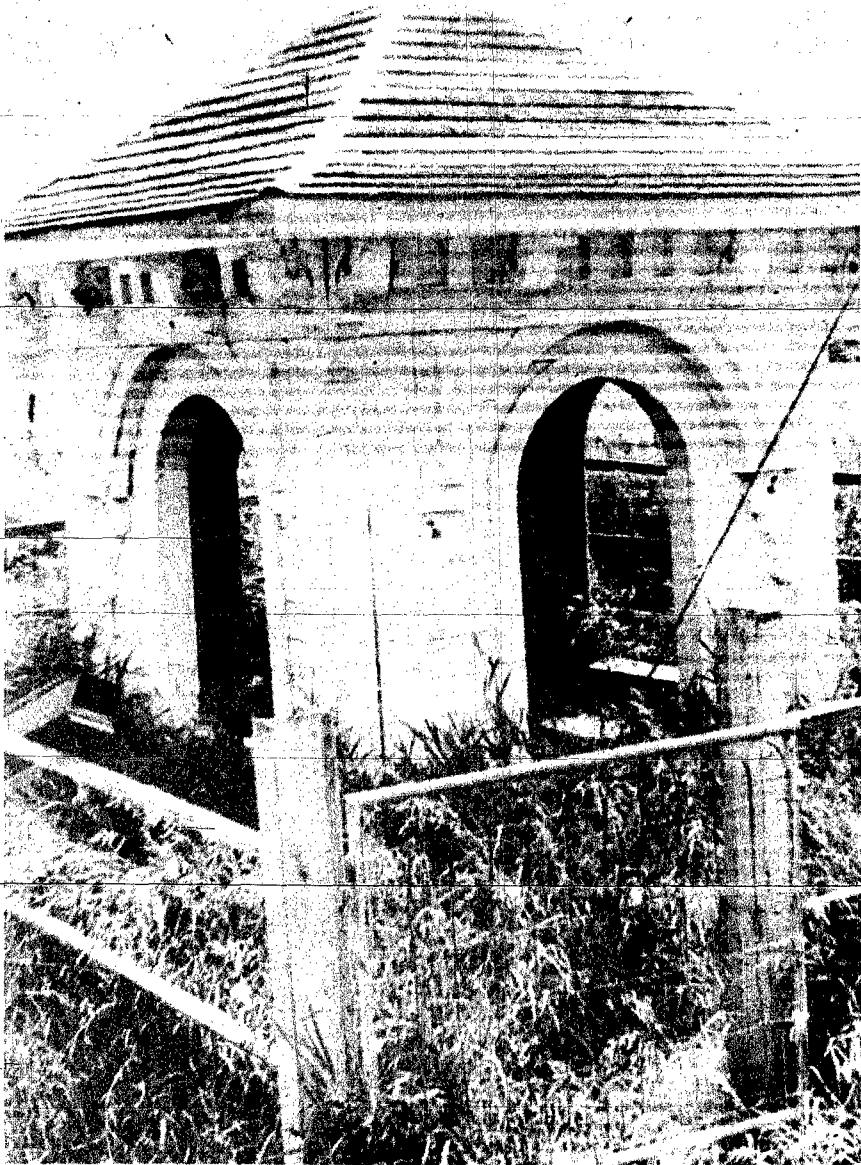
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of March, 1936.  
I. F. GAEBLER, Notary Public.

## WINSIDE STATE BANK STATEMENT OF CONDITION JUNE 10, 1976

### REPORT OF CONDITION OF THE WINSIDE STATE BANK WINSIDE, NEBR. — June 10, 1976

Cash	\$251,687.19
Loans & Discounts	2,773,972.19
Bonds	2,132,570.40
Obligations of States and Political Subdivisions	194,144.89
Federal Funds	430,000.00
Bank Building, Furniture & Fixtures	33,763.23
	<b>\$5,816,137.90</b>
Capital	\$100,000.00
Surplus	225,000.00
Undivided Profits	83,468.85
Loss Reserve on Loans	58,098.27
<b>TOTAL Capital &amp; Reserves</b>	<b>\$466,567.12</b>
DEPOSITS	\$5,344,516.78
Other Liabilities	5,054.00
	<b>\$5,816,137.90</b>

# Railroad Forces Inhabitants to Abandon Town



THE LaPORTE court-house cupola and a marker are the only hints that a town once stood on the site. The marker was dedicated on Oct. 31, 1937. This marker erected on the site of LaPorte, first town in Wayne County, and dedicated to the memory of the pioneers who famed

the wilderness." The dates, 1869 and 1937, represent the time of the first settlement and the time of erection of the monument. The inscription, along with the dates, is engraved on a native granite boulder taken from a pit five miles northeast of Wayne. It measures about three feet

square and weighs 1,900 pounds. The top surface, bearing the inscription, is polished. Mrs. Elmer Haglund presided at the unveiling ceremony, and the Rev. John Paddock read from Psalms. Ed Burnam sang "Onward LaPorte," the LaPorte Community Club song. J.E. Briffain spoke.

Undoubtedly, the most significant event of early pioneer days was the coming of the railroad.

In the summer of 1880, it was considered at LaPorte that both the Union Pacific and St. Paul and Sioux City Railroad Companies would run their lines through the county. By the next summer, the St. Paul and Sioux City Co. had trains running to Emerson and lumber and materials were hauled from that point. A stage line was also in operation between Emerson and LaPorte, transporting passengers and mail.

In June of 1880, O.D. Brown, R.B. Crawford and James Britton purchased the half section where Wayne is now located for \$5.50 an acre and donated it to Frank Peavey, who was connected with the railroad. The land was donated as a town site, with Brown, Crawford and Britton reserving an interest in it for themselves.

Town lots during the first year after the Peavey Townsite Co. became identified with the real estate business, sold from \$25 to \$100 each, depending on their location.

The winter of 1880-81 was remembered by the pioneers as the most severe ever recorded in Nebraska. The storm began with a heavy blizzard on the afternoon of Oct. 15 and continued without interruption for two or three days. From then until late in April, the snow depth ranged from three to four feet. Government statistics showed that more than 14 feet of snow fell that winter, and in April the melting snow and rain flooded everything in the Logan Valley.

The flood washed out many miles of the railroad grade and retarded its completion to Wakefield and Wayne. During this flood period, goods destined for LaPorte were held at Emerson for more than 90 days.

Visitors in June of 1881, said there was nothing but the lot stakes to mark the new townsite of Wayne. Lumber for the first house was hauled during the summer. This house was built by R.T. Maxwell on the southeast corner of the present Wayne Middle School block.

Within a few months, the railroad was extended to Wakefield, and with the prospect of its reaching Wayne, families and buildings were moved from LaPorte. Among the businesses were a general store, under the firm name of Britton, Hardenburgh and Johnson, the Wayne County Bank, started by O.D.

Brown, and The Logan Valley Bank, owned by Bressler and Patterson. T.T. Maxwell and Morris and Steele had hardware stores and J.L. Merriam owned a general store.

A number of houses were built, notably those of Mark Stringer, Peter Mears and the Conovers. Newspaper accounts state that by May, 1882, there were 33 structures located in the townsite. Mrs. Edna Britton Stewart was the first child born in the new town.

The railroad was completed and the first train probably arrived in February of 1882, although the date is not definite. The first regularly scheduled train was No. 12, which arrived from Norfolk on April 24, 1882, at 8:55 a.m.

The town was originally named Bookdale by the railway company, but they were persuaded to change the name to Wayne.

After the arrival of the railroad, activities increased. New families began to arrive and the movement of real estate was stimulated. It is stated in the Logan Valley Herald for Feb. 29, 1884, "Over 100 newcomers have arrived this spring and still they come. Ten or 12 families are expected from Iowa and Illinois this evening."

When John Lake purchased 320 acres in the south half of Section 7 (now the northeast part of Wayne) at \$10 per acre, he was considered foolish, but after plating his addition and beginning to sell lots, residents realized that the real estate market had possibilities.

Cattle feeding operations are reported to have started with the coming of the railroad. Previous to that time, cattle hadn't been fed in any number due to the lack of a market. But during the winter of 1881-82, George Waite and D.W. Britton bought three carloads of local animals, fed them out on corn and shipped them by rail to Chicago in March. It's reported that during the first year of the railroad, 108 cars of stock were shipped from the county.

The town was incorporated as a village on Feb. 2, 1884. The first trustees were A.B. Slater, R.B. Taylor, James Britton, John T. Bressler, and Charles Johnson. A.P. Childs was clerk, T.J. Steele, treasurer, and A.A. Welch, attorney. The first meeting of the trustees was held Feb. 18, 1884. For a number of years, A.B. Slater was chairman of the board of trustees.

Prospect of

Railroad Prompts

Move to Wayne



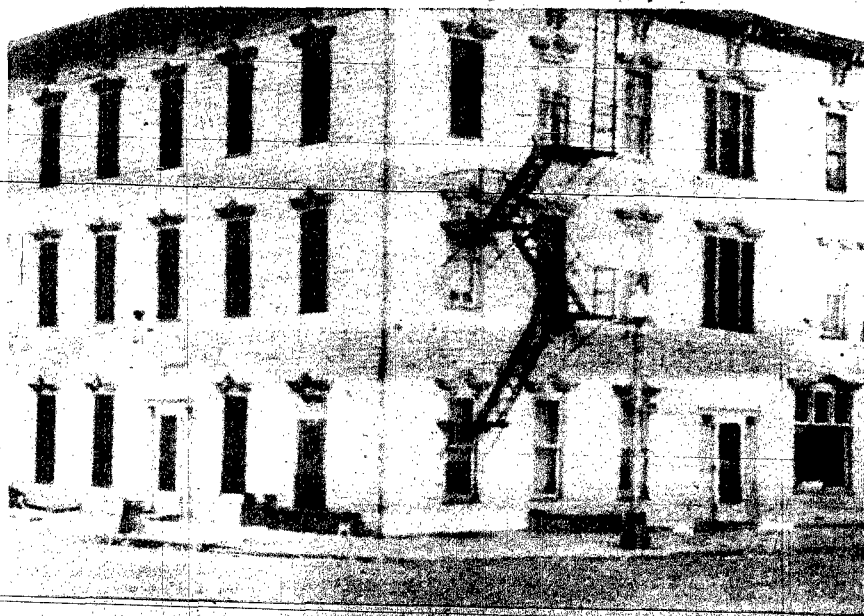
**NEIL DINGES**  
Manager



**McDonald's**

*McDonalds located in Wayne in 1927. It was known as The Golden Rule and later changed to McDonalds. They were located where the newspaper building is today and moved to their present location in 1965.*

**1886 Boyd Hotel — Where McDonalds is now located**



**Present McDonalds Location**







## Veterans Group Namesake

LEWELYN B. WHITMORE, son of Mr. and Mrs. S.B. Whitmore, formerly of Wayne, was the first Wayne County man to die in World War II. Whitmore graduated from the campus high school at Wayne Normal College (now Wayne State College) in 1933. He enlisted in the army before the beginning of World War II, and was captured during the Japanese invasion of the Philippines. Wayne Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5291 was named in honor of Whitmore.



**LILLIAN SURBER**

# SURBER'S SURBER'S

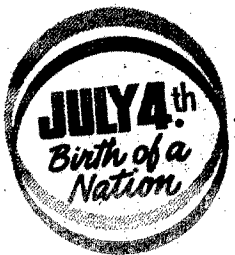
202 MAIN STREET

*Surbers Clothing formerly Larson Kuhn and then  
Larson Florine was established in 1951. Charles and  
Lillian Surber purchased the Clothing Store on*

*May 1, 1973*



**CHARLES SURBER**



**DEALERS FOR:**  
 LORENZ SNO-BLOWERS  
 LORENZ PORTABLE  
 GRINDER-MIXERS  
 LAHMAN STACK MOVERS  
 LAHMAN PORTABLE  
 DEFOGGERS  
 KNIGHT MIXER WAGONS

**CUSTOM:**  
 STAINLESS STEEL & SHEET  
 METAL FABRICATIONS

**HOSKINS MFG.**  
 HOSKINS NEBRASKA

BULLS EYE  
 FOR QUALITY

*Automatic*  
**RED TOP  
 LIVESTOCK  
 EQUIPMENT**

*Quality Doesn't Cost it Pays*

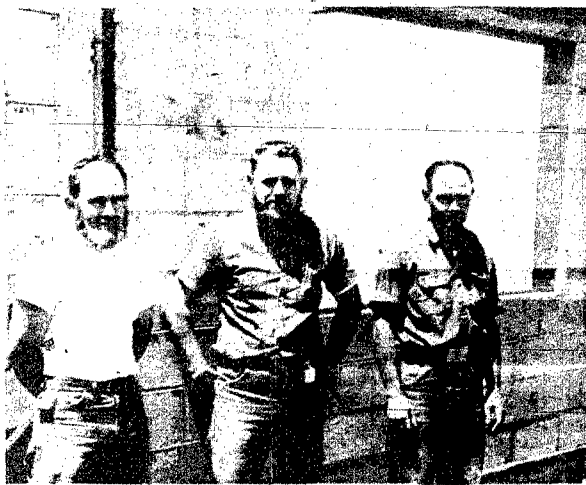
RED TOP  
 CATTLE & HOG  
 WATERERS

RUB-MOST  
 HOG  
 OILERS

**DISTRIBUTORS OF:**  
 LEMCO GRINDER-MIXER  
 SCALES  
 WINCO ELECTRIC POWER  
 GENERATORS  
 HEALTH-A-MATIC WATERING  
 MEDICATORS  
 PAUL LIVESTOCK SCALES

**MANUFACTURERS OF:**  
 AUTOMATIC RED TOP  
 LIVESTOCK WATERERS  
 RED TOP 3-POINT UTILITY  
 CARRIER  
 RED TOP DOUBLE LATCH  
 GATE  
 RUB-MOST HOG OILERS

## Growing and Expanding Since 1966



**Vernon Delp, Rich Doffin and Kyle Delp  
 During Construction in May, 1966**

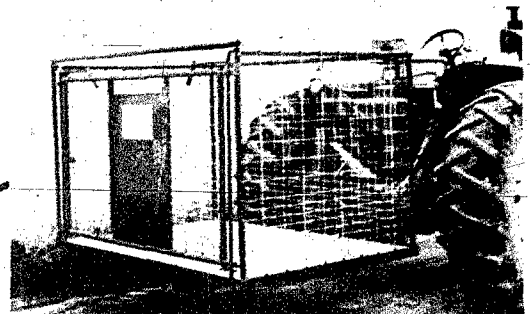
### 10 YEARS OF PROGRESS

- Spring 1966 — Three Norfolk men, Vernon Delp, Richard Doffin and Kyle Delp, buy a building in Hoskins demolish it and build a cement block building that will become Hoskins Manufacturing. The first products turned out are hog oilers and wall safes. The safes were later discontinued. Later in 1966 a line of livestock waterers is begun.
- 1967 — Orders for livestock waterers increase to the point that a 40 x 60 addition is added on the rear of the original building. Hoskins Manufacturing products are now in 8 states. Also in that year a line of metal farm gates was started which has been discontinued.
- 1968 — Another addition is completed as an Insulating & Painting Room.
- 1969 — Two new structures are added. A 50 x 60 warehouse and a 25 x 100 building next to the present location, which is presently operated as the Double 'L' Saloon.
- 1970 — Red Top 3-point Utility Carriers are introduced into the market.
- 1974 — An additional 34 x 50 is added on to the rear.
- 1975 — Business is Incorporated. Hoskins Quick Fill Cement Spouts introduced to the market. Accepted Powder River as National Distributor under private label.
- 1976 — Double Latch Gate introduced. Completion of office addition. Farnam Company of Arizona has been added as a distributor.
- Future 1980 — New building, complete new facilities — hopefully?

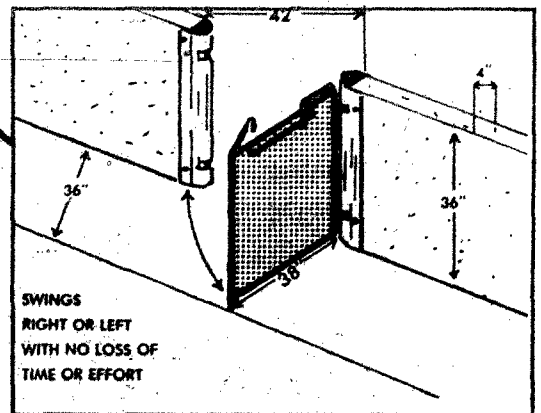
Hoskins Manufacturing began with a structure 30 x 40 foot (1,200 square feet) and have grown to the present building with a working area of 135 x 50 foot (6,700 square feet).



**Automatic Red Top Livestock Waterers**



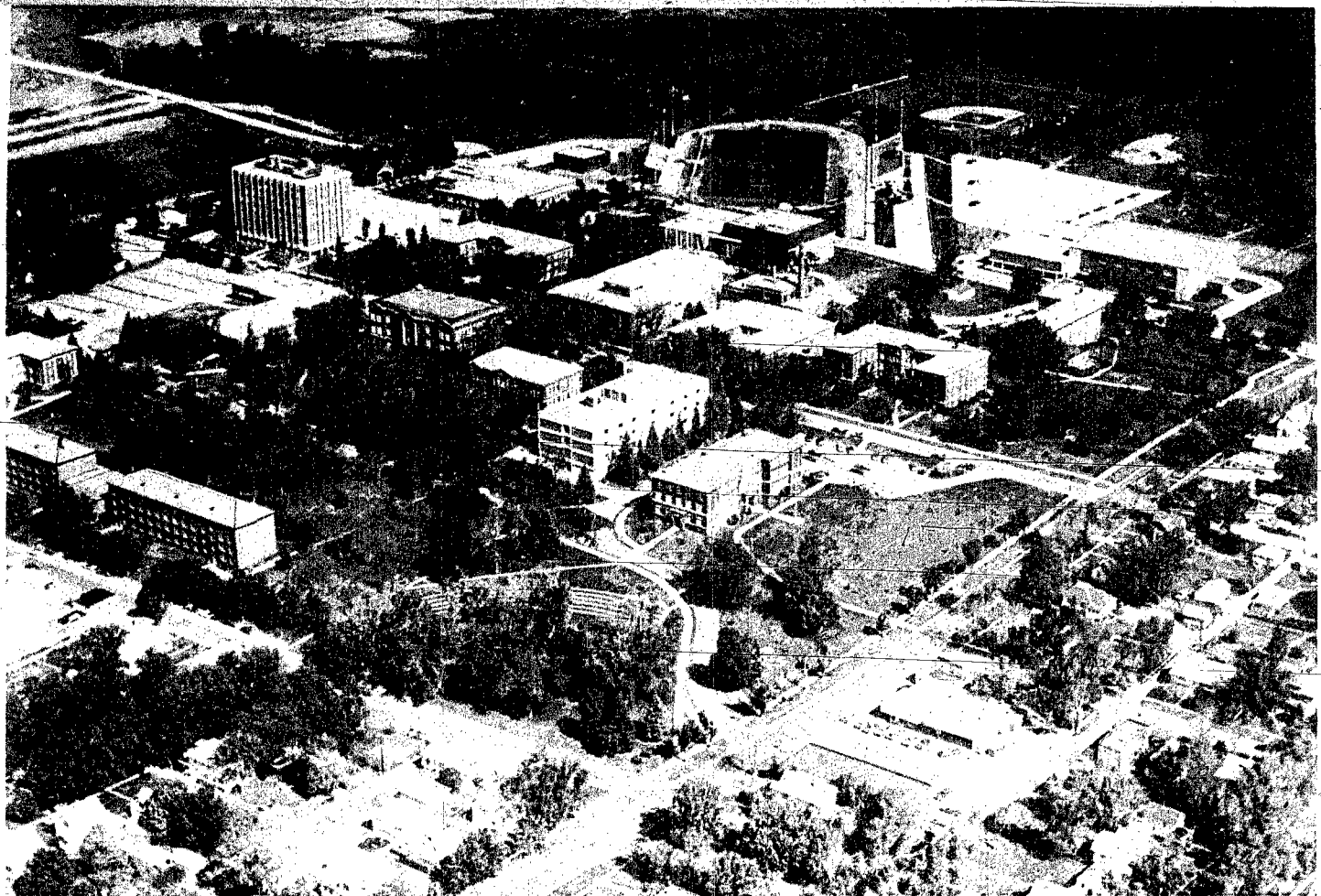
**Red Top 3-Point Utility Carrier**



**Red Top Double Latch Gate**



**Rub-Most Hog Oiler**



# The Building of the College

By SANDRA BREITKREUTZ  
The year is 1891. A new water system would be installed in Wayne soon, but the telephone

and electricity were still six and seven years off.

John G. Nelhardt, who would later become Nebraska's poet

laureate, and another well-known Nebraska writer, Bess Streeter Aldrich, were both but children, not yet 10 years of age.

A 31-year-old Lincoln lawyer, William Jennings Bryan, was becoming familiar for his great black mane of hair and magnificent oratorical style.

Nebraska had been admitted to the union a full 24 years before. Wayne County was already 21 years old. Wayne city was 11 years old, and it was time to build a college.

## False Starts

Landowner William Graves, who had induced some of the first Wayne County settlers to come from Lee County, Ill., by covered wagon in 1869, had the earliest dreams of a college for Wayne County. On April 22, 1871, Graves deeded 10,000 acres of land for that purpose, but provisions of his will were not met and Graves' heirs later had the trust set aside.

## Only Seven

There was no building yet, so when Pile's Nebraska Normal College classes opened that November they were held in a former laundry building at 313 Main Street.

First to enroll was Agnes Paul who later became Mrs. Harvey E. Mason of Meadow Grove. Four instructors, Prof. Pile included, were on hand to greet the seven students who turned out. But enrollment picked up daily.

On Sept. 5, 1892, the college dedicated its first "home" — a four-story brick building on campus hill. The first floor of the building contained the college kitchen, dining room and music rooms, and the Pile family living quarters. On the second floor were offices, a cloak room, the library and class rooms. The third floor was used for chapel and the commercial

room, with the bellboy's room and stairway to the bell tower in the southwest corner. The fourth floor housed men students, and a sub-basement held the fuel bins and steam boilers which heated the building.

The building was razed in 1914 to make room for an administration building.

Prof. Pile arranged the college schedule to fit the time and financial circumstances of his students. Tuition was \$31.50 per term or \$125 for a full year of five terms. No entrance examination was required and a student's 10-week term began whatever day he arrived on campus.

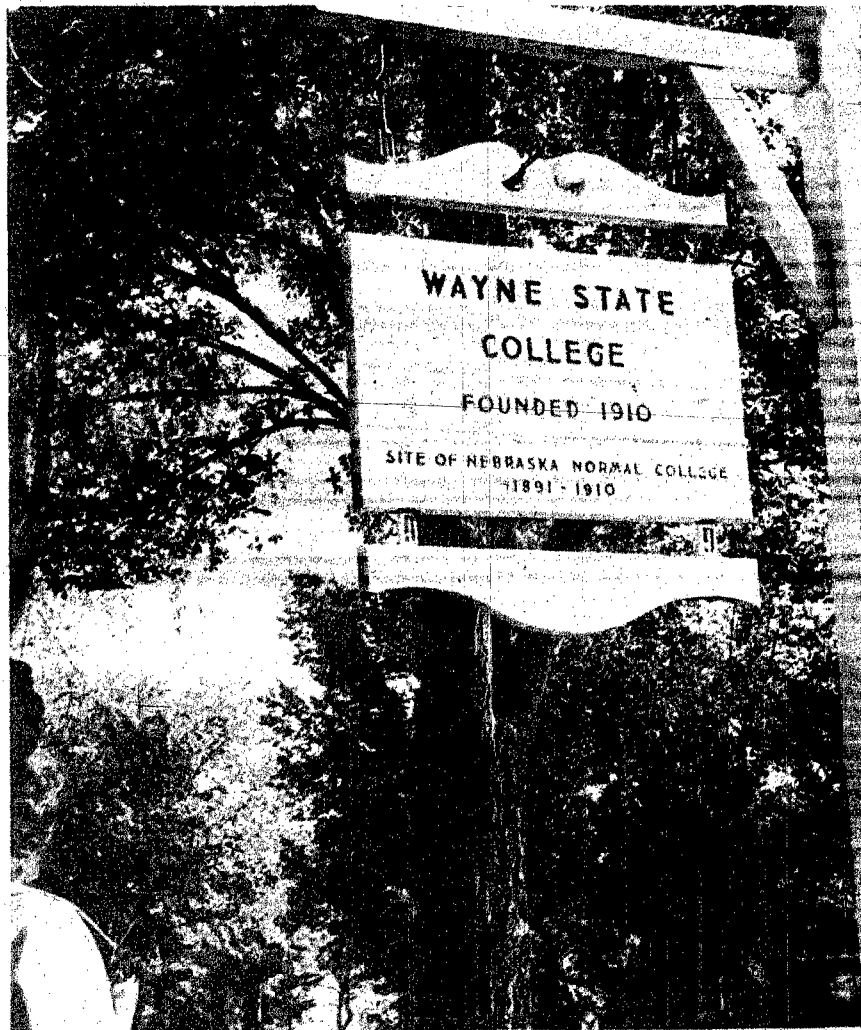
The "Panic of '93" combined with a year of unseasonably early frost and another year of burning drought, and it became common for tuition at Nebraska Normal College to be paid in garden truck, eggs, milk and labor.

In 1887, a Lutheran academy offering a combination of high school and college courses had been enticed to move to Wayne from Homer. The school was managed by the Rev. W.C. McCool. Classes were conducted in rooms above Robins and Harrington General Store (later the State National Bank), in rural school buildings, in the McCool home (later to be owned by M.L. Ringer) and wherever else space was available.

The town presented the academy a parcel of land on which to build south of Greenwood Cemetery, and excavation work was completed before the project and the school were abandoned in 1889.

James Madison Pile, a Fremont professor, had conducted teacher institutes in Wayne for

(Continued on following page)



AN AERIAL view of Wayne State College, above photo, shows the "midwest's most beautiful campus" in 1976. A sign at the college's main entrance, photo at left, tells when the institution was founded, in 1910.

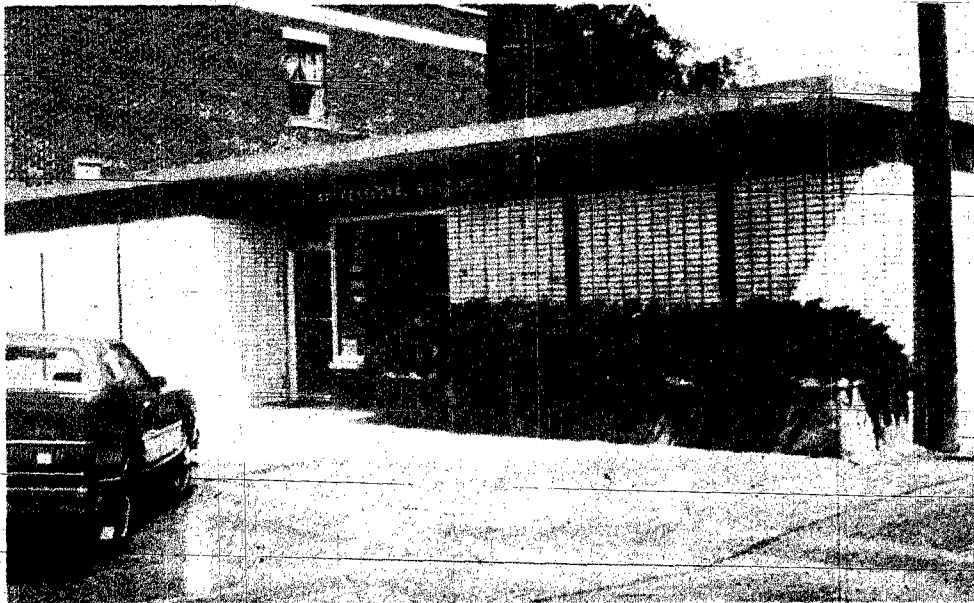


**J. M. Pile**  
Founder of Nebraska  
Normal College



**Dr. U. S. Conn**  
President of Wayne State  
Teachers College 1910-1935

**112 Professional Building**



HOME OF  
**PROPERTY EXCHANGE**

WHERE  
**Real Estate Is Our Only Business**

**SERVING THE WAYNE COMMUNITY FOR THE PAST TWO DECADES!!**

112 West 2nd St. Phone 375-2134

**DARREL FUELBERTH**  
Res. 375-3205

**R.G. FUELBERTH**  
Res. 375-1199

# State School Establishes

(College continued)

two summers when he became enthusiastic over the possibility of Wayne as a normal school center in 1891. He was backed by Wayne citizens impressed with the success of Pile's summer school sessions.

Gunn, Yost & Company proposed a finance plan, and a tract of land adjoining Wayne on the northeast was purchased from Marcellus Dearborn for \$2,746.15 and deeded to the Nebraska Normal College Association. The tract was platted and divided into 600 lots, most of which were sold for \$35 to raise \$20,000 to build and equip the proposed college.

Two blocks were set back for the college campus.

Articles of incorporation were drawn up Sept. 3 of that same year. It was agreed that Prof. Pile should be president of the college, and if at the end of five years enrollment was at least 200 students per year, the entire stock should be deeded to Pile free of indebtedness—conditions which were easily met.

Corn, which went down to eight cents a bushel on the market, was accepted in payment of fees and was burned for fuel—the cheapest available.

### College For Sale

Local interest in having the state purchase the Nebraska Normal College began as early as 1895 with Legislative Bill H.B. 12, which failed to pass. In 1899 another bill was introduced and also failed.

President Pile's health was failing, and he sincerely desired to see the state take over operation of his school. It wasn't until April 6, 1909, shortly after Pile's death, that this became possible by the passage of Bill 139.

Much credit for passage of "139" goes to four Wayne men who became known as the "third house"—in Nebraska's two-house legislature. The men were Phil H. Kohl, owner of Kohl Land and Investment Co., who was elected state senator the following year; Henry C. Ley, banker and mayor of the city; James Britton, merchant and later county judge, and John T. Bressler, banker, former state senator and member of the board of trustees of the Nebraska Normal College.

These men headed the Wayne group which remained in Lincoln, almost continuously from the time "139" was introduced until it passed in the house and senate and was signed by Governor Shallenberger.

Mrs. Pile, with son Fred J. Pile as president, continued to operate the school until September of 1910 when \$70,000 was made available by the Legislature for the purchase of the school.

When the state took over, the campus had grown to include two recitation buildings, five dormitories, the president's residence (which became Kappa Delta Gamma Sorority House in 1969) and the central heating plant.

### Changes

In 1910, Wayne citizens were working to procure Carnegie funds with which to build a public library.

And things were also happening on the hill where Prof. Pile's college had officially become the Nebraska Normal School at Wayne. Dr. U.S. Conn, who had taught at the school under Prof. Pile, was appointed president. The aid of the Wayne Commercial Club was enlisted to publicize the school. Advertisements

were run in newspapers throughout the state and in educational journals. Flyers were circulated, and house-to-house campaigns were conducted in nearby towns.

The first catalog of 12 pages was published, and the calendar for the year was divided into the traditional two semesters, a step that resulted in temporary enrollment decline.

Tuition at the normal school was free, as per legislative directive, but entering students paid a one-time matriculation fee of \$5. (That matriculation fee did not change until January of 1975 when it was raised to \$10.)

The faculty now numbered 15. Textbooks were rented for 20

cents each per semester, and students were exhorted to bring any available texts from home. Dormitory rooms cost 50 cents a week, and board ranged from \$2.50 to \$3.25 a week.

In 1911, Dr. Julius T. House, English and sociology instructor, along with Gerald Cross and Ralph Sterling, who were probably students, published the Flame, a monthly education magazine which evolved to become the Goldenrod a year later and the Wayne Stater in 1961.

In 1914, students published their first school yearbook and called it the Spizzerinktum, a word whose origin is vague, but which supposedly meant "over-mastering will to succeed."

The campus was increased to

40 acres in 1918. Drives were laid out and paved in 1919. An artificial lake was completed later to be made into a sunken garden and still later to become the popular outdoor amphitheatre known today as the Willow Bowl.

World War I came and went. The class of 1919 erected a memorial gateway at the main entrance to the college to honor Wayne Normal's own soldiers.

Buildings were added; others were torn down. The faculty continued to grow. Programs of study were enlarged to meet growing needs. Fall enrollment in 1919 climbed to 354.

### Another New Name

In 1921, the school became a (Continued on following page)



THE FIRST building occupied by the Wayne college, above, in November of 1891 was a former laundry building at 313 Main St., later to become Ben's Paint Store.

## State-National Farm Management Co.

Real Estate Sales and Loans  
Henry Ley — REALTORS — Felix Dorcey

# "Under All Is The Land"



Rapid growth has been the story of State-National Farm Management Co. since its establishment as a business in Wayne in early 1969.

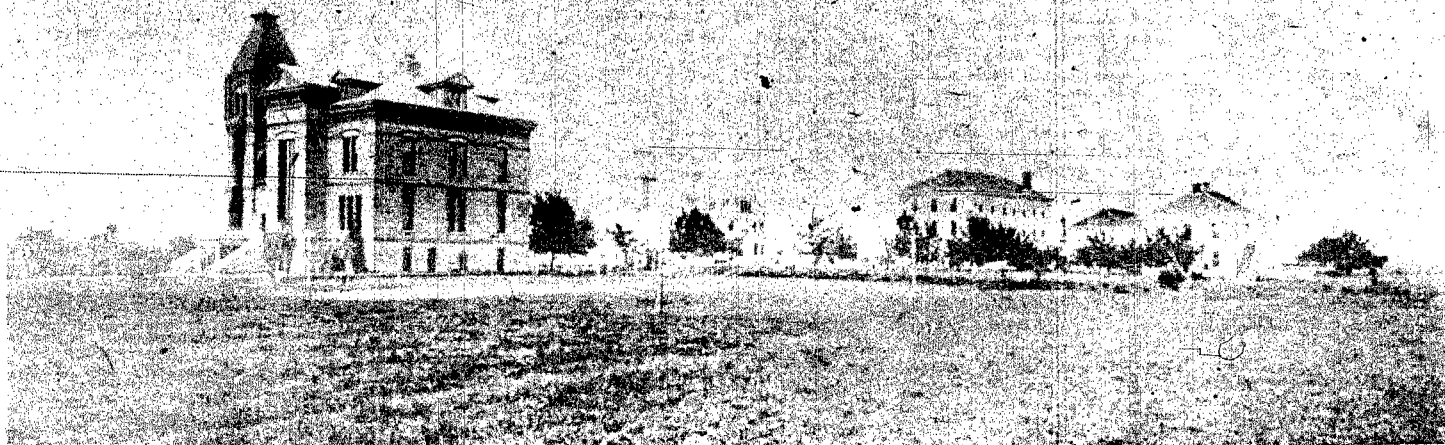
State-National Farm Management Co. originally intended to focus on the management of farms, however, it was not long before they could see the need for a marketing agency for homes in the city of Wayne. Since 1970, State-National Farm Management Co. has marketed over 200 homes in the city of Wayne. They have also sold homes in Wakefield, Emerson, Laurel and Randolph.

At the present time, State-National Farm Management Co. has extended their farm management to include farms located, not only in Wayne County, but also in Dixon, Cedar, Thurston and Dakota Counties.

In 1971, State-National Farm Management Co. began marketing farms in Northeast Nebraska. Since that time, the sale of more than 50 farms have been handled by the firm. The firm has also handled the sale of numerous commercial properties in the Wayne area.

State-National Farm Management Co. now has a staff numbering eight. On the staff are Sheryl Jordan, Ted Bahe, Gwen Brandenburg, Tom Dorcey, John Dorcey, Alex Liska, Galen Wisner and Avery Jaspersen. Jaspersen joined the company in April of 1975 and became the first State-National Farm representative living outside of Wayne. Jaspersen is located in the West Point-Oakland area.

The staff of State-National Farm has extended its congratulations to The Wayne Herald on its 100th year. We feel the Herald has played an important part in the growth of the Wayne area and we feel as an advertising media the Herald has been a part of the growth of State-National Farm Management.



## College Nicknamed 'Midwest's Most Beautiful'

(College continued)

State Normal School and Teachers College when state legislators elevated all four Nebraska normal schools from two-year to four-year colleges and gave them the authority to grant BA degrees in education.

The institution, which had been purchased by the state for \$70,000 just 12 years before, was estimated to be worth one million dollars in 1922. Fall enrollment was now 449.

The twenties may have been "roaring" on a national scale, but at the college in Wayne things were running smoothly. Women bobbed and waved their hair and donned cloche hats and fur-trimmed collars for their Spizz photographs. College athletes changed their name from "tigers" to "wildcats."

The Commonwealth of Nebraska, by official act, named 1898 Normal School graduate John G. Neihardt poet laureate of the state, said to be the first honor of the sort granted by any governing body in the history of America at the time.

Back on campus the grounds had been landscaped, laying the groundwork for the nickname, "midwest's most beautiful campus."

In 1921 a complete, four-year high school course was added to the campus training school program. And in 1926, a new train-

ing school building was completed at a cost of \$130,000.

And then it was the "dirty thirties." The thirties put tractors in the fields and horses out to pasture, voices in the movies and Amos and Andy in America's living room. It was also the time when crops withered in the fields and banks took over more and more farm land.

But at Wayne State, fall enrollment was up to 664 and school spirit was high. Eleven acres were added to the campus in 1931 for an athletic field. The newly organized Katz club dug out the old bell which was once used to call classes, and erected it in front of the administration building as a victory bell, to be rung when football and basketball games were won.

It was also in the 30's that President Conn resigned.

Some said Dr. Conn was too old-fashioned and set in his ways. Others said he knew the worth of a dollar and kept the taxpayers in mind when making up the budget. He participated in community affairs and often came to the aid of students in financial trouble, dipping into his own pocket to do so.

The new president, 51-year-old Dr. James T. Anderson, arrived in 1935. Although no one ever questioned his dedication, J.T. was not the most popular of

college presidents. A devout Baptist, Anderson felt it his duty to keep an eye on faculty and students both on and off campus to see they conformed to his moral code of conduct. He did not condone the use of tobacco or liquor and only tolerated the campus dances. But Anderson was a frugal operator and kept expenditure to a minimum which pleased the board members.

### World War II

1940 brought changes to the college campus. After Pearl Harbor snatched patriotic young men out of the classroom, Wayne's college became primarily women, but not for long.

Eighty colleges throughout the nation, Wayne included, became cadet training centers. In March of 1943 the Army Air Force Crew Training Detachment (AAFCTD), commanded by a Col. Bazata, moved in, transforming Terrace Hall into a barracks and holding classes in the art building.

Cadets were drilled in military courtesy, military honor code, leadership and military law. They held ceremonies and suffered inspections.

Upon arrival at Santa Anna, Calif., where they were sent for further training, the cadets were tested in subjects they had studied at the various college

training centers. Because of the Wayne cadets' consistently high history scores, Wayne State received a special commendation, and history instructor Dr. J.R. Johnson was asked to prepare a report on methods used to attain such high performance.

The last cadet class left Wayne in April of 1944.

### New Administration

The war ended, as did President Anderson's administration. He resigned Aug. 31, 1946, and moved to California to set up a counseling service. Academic dean Victor P. Morey was moved up to the top job.

In 1949 the Legislature changed the name of the school to Nebraska State Teachers College at Wayne and granted the authority to confer the baccalaureate degree for study in liberal arts.

The first liberal arts degree was granted in 1950, the same year the Wayne State Memorial Stadium, dedicated to World War II veterans, was completed. Fall enrollment was 763.

In the spring of 1951, while making an appearance in Wakefield, President Victor Morey collapsed and died, apparently from a heart attack. Academic Dean Howard Tempero served as acting president while the board began its search for Morey's successor.

Dr. John D. Rice was the choice. Dr. Rice came from Aberdeen, S.D., where he had been superintendent of public schools.

Rice's administration also included a war, the 1950-53 Korean conflict. Editors of the 1953 Spizz dedicated their yearbook to "those who are fighting to protect that which we hold dear."

Rice had the college moving ahead. He followed through on previous projects and launched an extensive remodeling and building program of his own. Included in his objectives were a new library, dormitory and auditorium-gymnasium. But early in 1956, when his work had only begun, he became ill and died.

Milton Hassel, then dean of students, became acting president while the board began interviewing for a new president.

### Brandenburg, the Builder

President of Wayne State the next 17 years was Dr. William Aaron Brandenburg, a product of Kansas State Teachers College at Pittsburg where his father was a popular president.

The 50's and 60's were days of world-wide student rebellion over the war in Vietnam. Although the Wayne college experienced the same student dissent that caused riots in other educational centers, it responded at a more conservative level than did many.

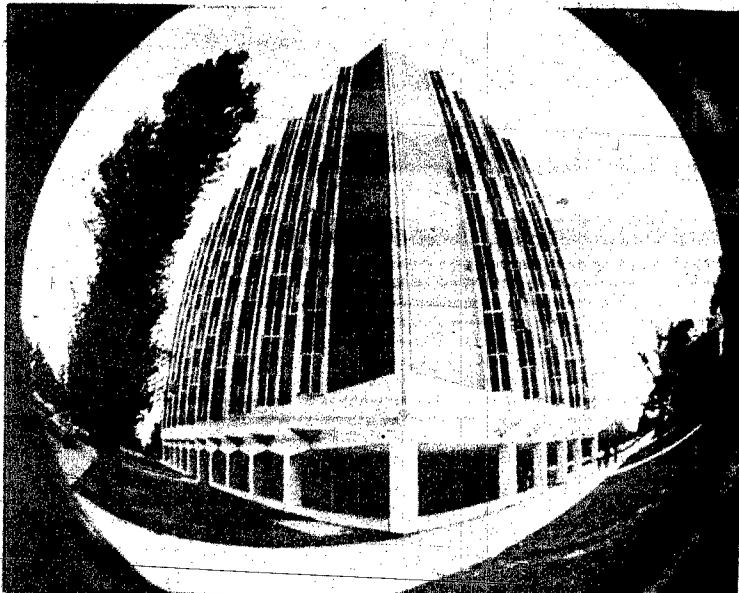
The student body reacted to several faculty dismissals with a short-lived campus sit-in. An underground newspaper surfaced for two or three issues.

But not all happenings in those years reflected discontent. It was also an age of progress and change.

In 1956 a graduate program was set up. The Wayne State Foundation was instituted in 1961 to provide scholarships and to finance projects not covered by tax revenue. In 1962 Wayne was one of the first schools to adopt the trimester system to expedite the earning of (Continued on following page)

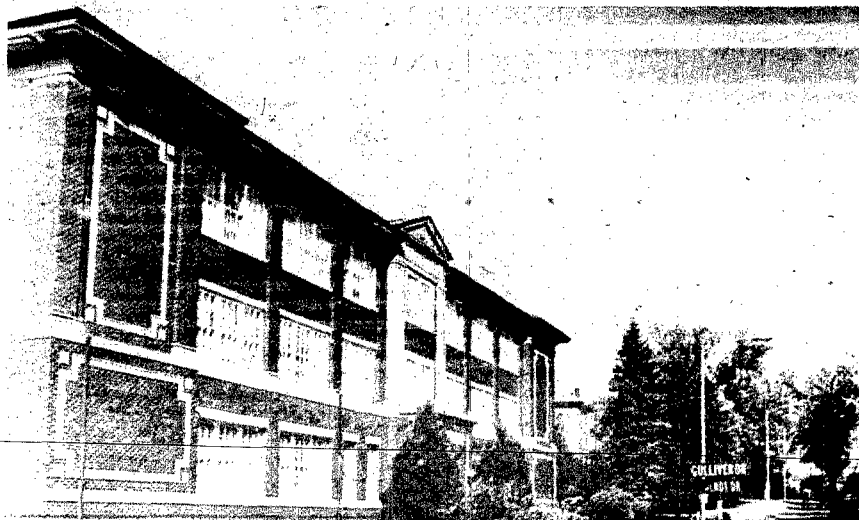
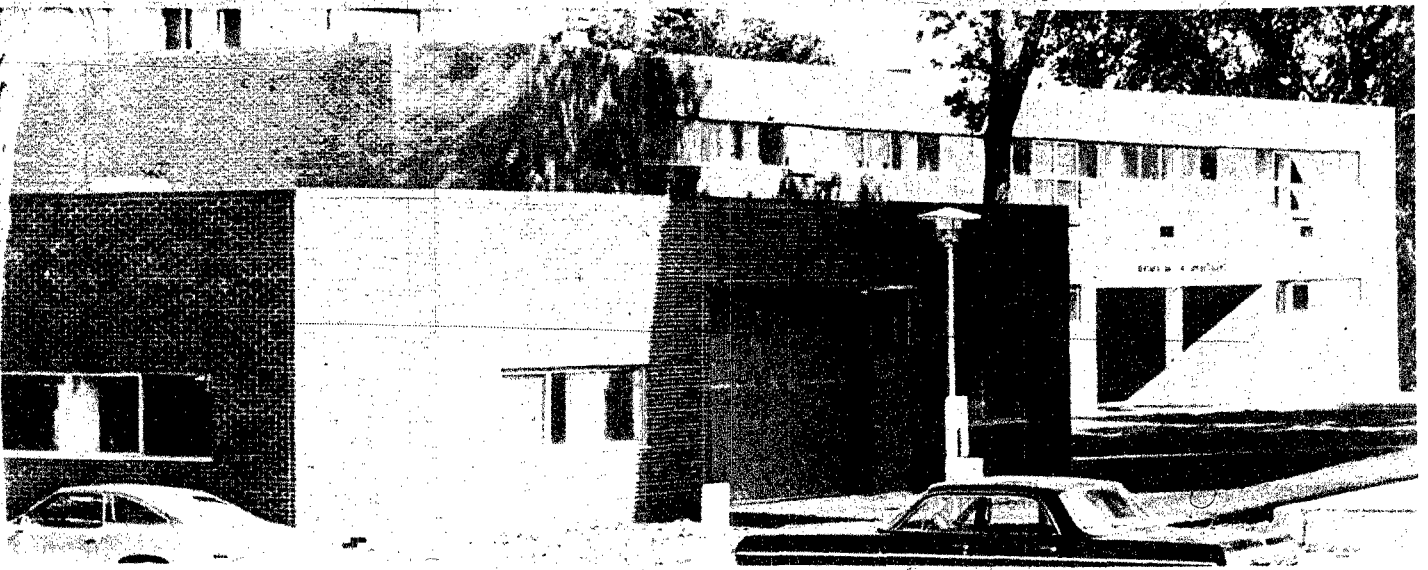


PICTURED in the photo above are the original building and dormitories of the J.A. Pile College. The Willow Bend, photo at left, was originally an artificial lake and still later a sunken garden before it was landscaped into today's popular outdoor amphitheatre.



## A Lens-View of Wayne State College

THE CAMPUS of Wayne State College is constantly expanding; tearing down the old to make room for the new. The college has kept pace with the rest of the nation in the field of education and today offers innovative programs of information and training for the public as well as the student body. Conn Library, top photo, was enlarged under President Brandenburg's administration. In September of 1975, Wayne State's Physical Industrial Building, center left, was torn down. The building was started in 1915 and completed in 1917 with a state appropriation of \$90,000. Featured in the Carhart Science Building is the planetarium, center right, which stages varied and current programs during the year. Using a fisheye camera lens, a Wayne State student, bottom photo, takes a look at Bowen Hall, one of the campus dormitories.



## Named Changed in '63

(College continued)  
degrees. A fraternity and sorority system was inaugurated.

An off-campus student teaching program replaced the campus training school programs and the Hahn building was turned into an administration complex in 1971.

The rural training school which held classes for rural students in the Physical-Industrial building, was discontinued in August of 1955. The last high school classes were offered at Hahn School (also known as Wayne Prep) in 1962. Hahn's

elementary school closed in June of 1964, and the building was used as a public school annex and called East Elementary School for two more years.

In 1963 the Legislature changed the college's name, and it became officially Wayne State College. Fall enrollment was up to 1,799.

Brandenburg was a builder and carried on a construction program that gave the campus a new look.

Rice Auditorium, named for the president who had laid out (Continued on following page)

A NEW building erected at Wayne State College is the Walter Benthack Hall of Applied Science, top photo. It honors Dr. Walter Benthack, who has practiced medicine in Wayne since 1930 and served on the state college governing board from 1939 to 1945. Public school classes at Hahn School, left photo, ended in 1966.

# N. W. Bell Telephone Co.

## WAYNE, NEBRASKA

### — HISTORY —

As early as July, 1897, toll lines were built and telephones installed in Wayne and Winside. In 1898, the Nebraska Telephone Company completed the toll circuit from Norfolk to Sioux City, but could not secure a franchise to enter the City of Wayne. Instead, a toll office was established at a farm outside the city and messages were relayed into Wayne by messenger.

In July, 1897, the Nebraska Telephone Company purchased the Wayne exchange and the franchise of the Iowa-Nebraska Telephone Company. The Wayne exchange changed hands twice more when the Nebraska Telephone Company sold it in April, 1905, then repurchased the exchange five years later.

In 1920, the Nebraska Telephone Company became Northwestern Bell Telephone Company.

In 1934, construction began on a new telephone office for Wayne. The building and equipment were put into service February 15, 1935 at 215 Pearl Street. Northwestern Bell still occupies those same offices, although improvements in the equipment and building have since taken place.

The Wayne exchange was converted to full dial service in 1962.

215 PEARL





# WSC Important to County

Wayne State College has done much to enrich the history of Wayne County, providing excellent educational opportunities for the local area, as well as for citizens from throughout Nebraska.

Originally established as a teachers college, WSC continues to emphasize teacher education, but has added programs to meet changing demands for education, both in regular curriculum, and in continuing education programs.

The college has made, and will continue to make, a significant contribution to both the culture and economy of the area. — Jim Strayer.

(College continued)

Its plans, was completed. Later it got an addition with an intramural gym, dispensary, and the Esther Dewitz Carlson Natatorium, named for a longtime faculty member.

Anderson Hall was completed under Brandenburg, and Conn Library was enlarged. New structures included the Student Center, Berry Hall, the Val Peterson Fine Arts Center, containing the Lenore P. Ramsey Theatre, and the Carhart Science Building, with its Fred G. Dale Planetarium. Work was also begun on the Benthack Hall of Applied Science.

Then, late in February of 1973, Dr. Brandenburg surprised the campus and the community by announcing his plans to resign as college president and "return to his first love," teaching, which he did until he became ill late in 1974 and died in January of 1975.

Dr. Lyle Seymour

The new president, Dr. Lyle Seymour, was born in Milaca, Minn., in 1922, and came to Wayne at age seven with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Seymour.

Seymour graduated from Wayne High School and attended the Wayne college two years before going to Iowa State University where he earned his BS in chemical technology in 1947 and his MS in vocational education in 1954. He received his PhD in biochemistry from the Uni-

versity of South Dakota in 1961.

During World War II, Seymour served as a bomber pilot in England for the U.S. Air Force. He taught science at Wayne City School prior to joining the WSC faculty as a chemistry instructor in 1953. In 1961, he was made chairman of the division of mathematics and science, and in 1967 he was appointed dean of faculties, a position he held until being named interim president when Brandenburg resigned.

In April of 1974 he agreed to accept the presidential appointment offered by the Nebraska State Board of Trustees, and a year later, in April of 1975, the first inauguration for any Wayne college president was held for Dr. Seymour.

College Today

Enrollment, which reached a high of 3,068 in the fall of 1968, tumbled downward with the end of the military draft, causing financial problems and resulting in faculty cuts at Wayne State.

In recent years, an emphasis has been placed on continuing education, a program of on-campus and off-campus educational opportunities for in-service teachers, career persons and others who cannot or do not wish to become regular, full-time students.

Courses are squeezed into evenings, weekends and vacation periods, and cover subjects from the psychology of death and dying to the fundamentals of

flying, from gourmet cooking to coaching baseball.

Wayne was first a teacher's college, but today's programs prepare graduates for careers in business, counseling, public service, broadcasting, medical technology, law and mortuary science as well.

In the early days, football, basketball and track were offered. Added to that now are wrestling, swimming, baseball, track, cross country, golf and tennis for men; and volleyball, basketball and softball for women.

Students who once walked miles or rode horseback to attend classes have been replaced by students who take off for New York or Washington, Spain, Scandinavia, Germany or Mexico as a part of their educational experience at Wayne State College.

The Region IV training center for handicapped youngsters and the Educational Service Unit I auditory testing laboratory, which are not directly related to the college program, both have headquarters on the Wayne campus.

Innovations as these tend to create a merger between campus and community. No longer is the college a place to come for just a sojourn into the academic world. It is, for the community it serves, a continuing source of information and training.

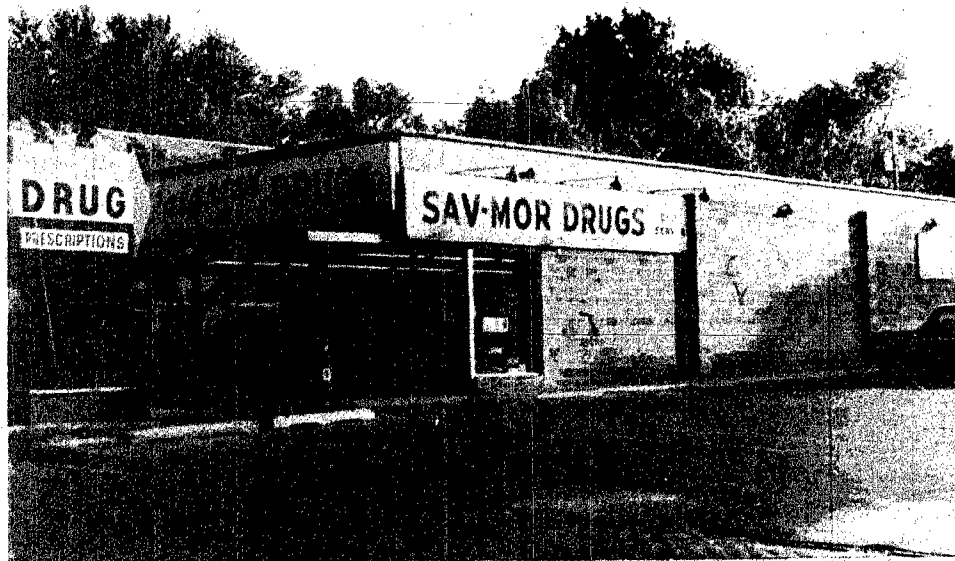


**Dr. Lyle Seymour**

Dr. Lyle Seymour was born in 1922 at Milaca, Minn. He came to Wayne with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Seymour, at the age of seven. A graduate of Wayne High School, he attended Wayne college for two years. In 1947 he earned his bachelor of science degree in chemical technology from Iowa State University, and his master of education degree in vocational education in 1954. He received his doctorate degree in biochemistry from the University of South Dakota in 1961. During World War II, he served as a bomber pilot for the U.S. Air Force. He taught science at Wayne City School before joining the Wayne State College faculty as a chemistry instructor in 1953. He became interim president of the college in 1973, following the resignation of Dr. William Brandenburg, and was appointed president on a permanent basis in April of 1974.



**Sav-Mor Drug was opened October 29, 1959 by Dr. L.A. Jensen and Wayne Marsh at its present location. In 1963 Jensen and Marsh sold the business to Robert Lund. In 1971 Dick Kiedel purchased the business from Lund.**



# First Mass in 1882

During the summer of 1881, the city of Wayne was platted, and a few houses were built that fall.

Among the early settlers who came with the railroad as employees, and those who came to Wayne to engage in business, were two men, members of the Catholic Church, who made arrangements to have mass celebrated in the new town.

Father Horn from West Point came in the spring of 1882, celebrating mass in the home of John B. Geitzen. The men instrumental in this arrangement were M. P. Ahern and Geitzen.

About 25 persons were present for this first mass. Among them were the families of Geitzen, Ahern, J.P. Gaertner, John T. Tracy and Amadi Chaon, and Neah Robitaille and Emelie Gaboria.

Father Horn was succeeded by Father Carney of Norfolk who served the congregation about two years, using the Geitzen home. When Father Carney left, mass was celebrated in the home of M.P. Ahern. The old courthouse was later used.

Father Carney was succeeded by Father Moriarty in 1885. In addition to serving congregations at Emerson and Wayne, Father Moriarty attended missions near his home in Lyons.

The following year, 1886, the first church was erected on a site in the north part of the city on Main St. To assist in canceling the small debt on the church, a fair was held in the winter of 1886 which netted receipts over \$500.

In 1887, Father Moriarty was

appointed resident pastor, remaining about a year after his appointment. He was succeeded by Father Mugan, who also remained about a year. Father Wallace came in February 1890, staying until fall when he left for England.

Father Barry succeeded him, remaining in Wayne one year then moving to Emerson, having Wayne as a mission.

In 1896, Wayne and Dixon came under the charge of the same pastor, and Wayne again had a resident pastor, Father McGrath. The following year, a house and three lots were purchased nearer the city, and the church was moved to East Fourth St.

Father McGrath remained two years and was succeeded by Father James B. Fitzgerald who remained for five years. During his pastorate, the church had a substantial growth in membership and all debts were paid. Father Weber came next, remaining only one year.

Father T.P. Haley came in December of 1902. During his administration the church building was doubled in size, a tower was built, new altars, a bell, pews, and confessionals were secured.

The original cost of the church was \$2,000, the house and grounds, \$1800, and the late improvements, \$3,000. Up until this date, persons from Carroll came to Wayne to attend mass. During the month of February, 1903, mass was said in Carroll in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Ahern.

When Father Haley was ap-

pointed to the Wayne parish, Dixon was attached to it. Mass was said every second Sunday at Wayne and Dixon. In 1903 a pastoral residence was purchased at Dixon and with Wayne left to itself, plans were made to build a church at Carroll. On Jan. 1, 1904, the first mass was said in the new Carroll church. It was named Our Lady of Sorrows and became a mission of Wayne.

About this time a committee of three men, made of Jno. Gaertner, T.W. Moran and Wendell Baker Sr., secured from the Wayne Public Cemetery Associ-

ation two and a half acres of land for the exclusive use of the Catholics of Wayne County.

Father Haley resigned to study in the Catholic University at Washington, D.C., and was succeeded by Father Kearnes, who came to the parish in September of 1906 and remained for 40 years when Carroll became a mission in Randolph.

Father Kearnes retired in 1950 and made his home in California until his death in 1952.

On Nov. 4, 1950, the Rev. Robert Hupp of Omaha became pastor of St. Mary's in Wayne. (Continued on following page)



FATHER THOMAS McDERMOTT



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



**COAST TO COAST STORES**

Phone 375-3360

217 Main St.



The Coast-to-Coast store at 217 Main in Wayne has been owned the past 20 years by Mel and Ruth Elofson. The Elofson's came to Wayne in April of 1956 and bought the store from Minor Fisher, who had run the business for 11 years.

Working for Coast-to-Coast was nothing new, however, for the Elofson's as Mel had been a district representative for the company in Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Colorado and Wyoming from 1944 to 1949 and a district representative out of Chicago since 1949.

Ruth had managed a Coast-to-Coast store in Vinton, Ia., before their marriage in 1946.

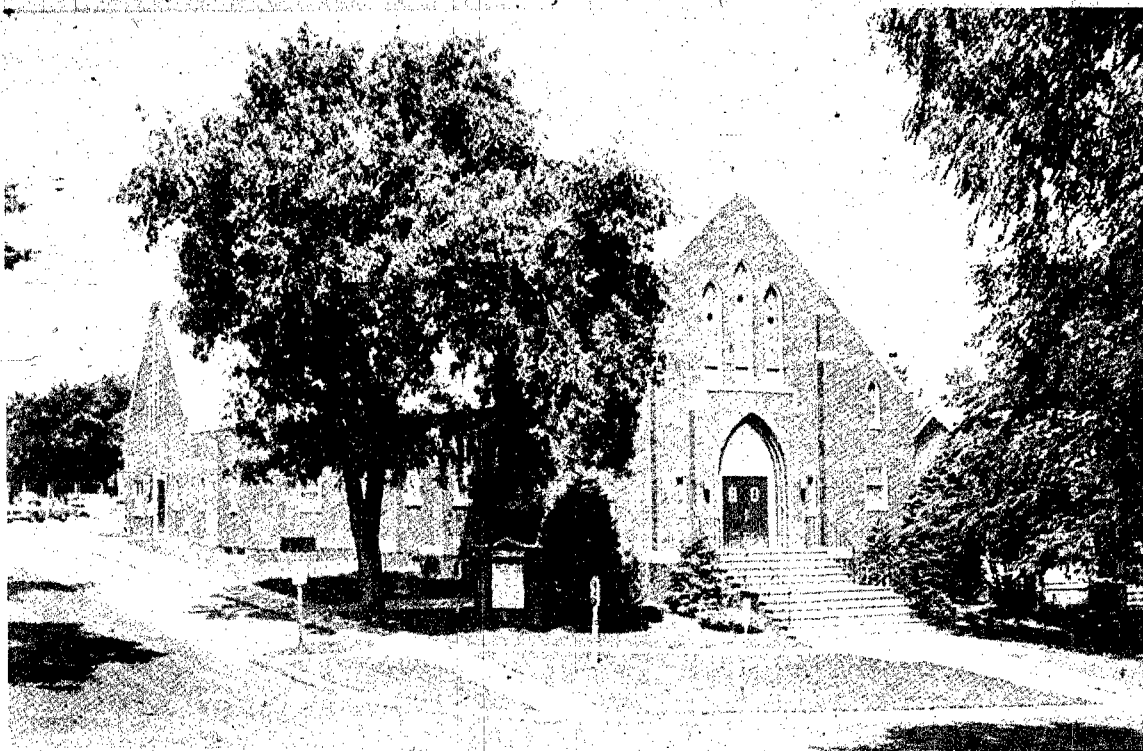
In 1968 and 1969 the Coast-to-Coast store in Wayne was remodeled. The business had expanded in 1966 with the purchase of an annex and warehouse at 115 East Third.

Like all "total Hardware" Coast-to-Coast stores, the Wayne business is locally owned and operated.



**COAST TO COAST STORES**





GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Grace Lutheran History Is Story of Expansion

The earliest beginnings of Grace Lutheran Church date back to the years immediately before 1925, when Lutheran pastors from neighboring congregations came to Wayne and conducted services, first at irregular intervals, then bi-weekly.

Among these were Pastors F. W. Kaut of Carroll, and H. Barnemann, who was serving St. Paul's Lutheran Church southwest of Wakefield. These services were held mostly in the old Wayne City Hall and in the Beckenhauer Mortuary Chapel.

Two members of this small group, namely George P. Berres Sr. and Frank Erxleben, were responsible for a movement to organize a congregation. A meeting was held in October of 1925 for this purpose.

After services on Nov. 9, 1925, a meeting was called by Rev. Kaut to organize a congregation with the name to be Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, and a call was issued to Pastor Herman H. Hopmann.

On Nov. 22, 1925, a proposed

constitution was submitted and adopted. Signing as charter voting members were George Berres Sr., Frank Erxleben, Carl F. Meyer, Carl Victor Jr., Arthur Hagemann, George Lessman and William Racherbaum.

Pastor Hopmann was installed on Jan. 10, 1926. The Ellis lot was purchased May 15, 1927, at a cost of \$2,000. With the help of a \$4500 loan from the District Church Extension Fund, construction of a chapel was begun and was dedicated on Sept. 25, 1927.

In September of 1936, Pastor Hopmann accepted a call to Emanuel Lutheran Church at York, and the Rev. Walter Brackensick became the second pastor of Grace Church on Oct. 18, 1936.

On Feb. 17, 1937, an eight-room parsonage was bought for \$4200.

In May of 1941, a special meeting was held to launch a building program for a larger church building. Ground breaking ceremonies for the new

brick-faced sanctuary, seating over 400 worshippers, was held in August of 1941. Dedication occurred on March 15, 1942. A mortgage burning ceremony for the \$29,000 building was held on July 22, 1945.

On Aug. 4, 1948, Rev. Brackensick died in an automobile accident while vacationing near Oklahoma City.

Rev. E. J. Bernthal was installed on March 20, 1949. Pastor Bernthal led the Grace congregation for over 24 years during which time the congregation acquired two additional pieces of property — one in 1949 adjoining the church property on the West to Main St., and the other in 1964, the lot north of the church.

In April of 1962, ground breaking took place for a new addition to the church building. Dedication was Nov. 18, 1962. Besides a multiple use basement, the present sanctuary is capable of seating about 700 worshippers.

Because of the continued growth of the congregation and the ministry of Grace Lutheran

Church to Wayne State College, additional pastoral services became necessary. At first the congregation participated in the vicarage program of the Synod. Vicarage students serving here were David Ault, 1967-68; Dennis Lassanske, 1970-71, and Donald Weiss, 1971-72.

The congregation decided that an assistant pastor, rather than a vicar, would be preferable. The Rev. John A. Upton began in that capacity in April of 1973.

In early fall of that same year, Pastor Bernthal received a call to Twin Falls, Idaho, to serve as assistant pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church. The Grace congregation now asked Pastor Upton to become its new head pastor. He was installed on Nov. 25, 1973.

Still being one pastor short of full staff, the Grace congregation called the Rev. Jack Schneider, a graduate of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, to become assistant pastor, and in the summer of 1974 Pastor Schneider accepted the call. He was installed July 28, 1974.



REV. JOHN UPTON



REV. JACK SCHNEIDER

Immediately after its organization, Grace Lutheran Church began a Sunday School which, together with the congregation, observed its silver anniversary in 1950.

In August of 1950, the first vacation Bible school was conducted for a two-week period and was taught by the pastor and volunteer workers.

The Altar Guild was organized in 1950 with a membership of 22. The Ladies Aid was formally organized in December of 1926.

The young people were organized into a society during the first year of the congregation's existence and soon after made application to affiliate with the International Walthier League.

The Men's Club was organized in November of 1939, and on Nov. 24, 1939, was issued its certificate of membership in the Lutheran Laymen's League.

Under the current leadership, Grace Lutheran Church numbers 750 baptized members and conducts an active ministry to students of Wayne State College.

## St. Mary's Congregation Builds Modern Church

(St. Mary's continued) Father Hupp remained in Wayne for two and a half years. During this time he organized St. Mary's Men's Club, the St. Mary's C.Y.O., St. Peter's and St. Joseph's study clubs, and the senior and junior choirs.

The highlight of Father Hupp's years in Wayne was the building of a parochial Catholic grade school.

Six acres of land on East Seventh St. were purchased for the school site.

Ground was broken on Sept. 8, 1952, and by June of 1953, the building was up and enclosed. A building was purchased from the State to be used as a convent for the four Benedictine Sisters who had been promised to be sent in August.

On June 13, Father Hupp was transferred back to Omaha and was succeeded by the Rev. Father William C. Kleffman of St. Rose, Hooper, and St. Lawrence, Scribner, parishes.

Father Kleffman completed the school building which opened on Sept. 8, 1953.

Father Kleffman served St. Mary's until August of 1968 when he was called to become pastor of St. Agnes Church in Omaha.

Before leaving, he collaborated with James Loftus of the Architectural firm of Loftus and Denny to plan, design and draw up blue prints for a church. Wayne State College had grown until almost 900 Catholic students enroll each fall, and four masses each Sunday in the old church could not accommodate

the students and members of the parish.

Father Kleffman also began the transition of the parish to the Vatican II style parish with the inauguration of the school board, building committee and Liturgical reform.

Father Paul J. Begley was appointed the new pastor of St. Mary's. He came from Hubbard in August of 1968. Shortly after his arrival, a new rectory was purchased across the street from the present convent.

In April of 1969, ground was broken for the new church, with seating capacity for 407 persons.

The church, located at 412 E. Eighth St., is a one-story building with a full basement. The main floor consists of a family room, baptismal room, a priest's sacristy and a boy's sacristy

together with a 34-foot wide sanctuary. The main body of the church is hexagonal in plan.

A parish council and liturgy and finance committees were formed, and a comprehensive C.C.D. program was developed under the direction of Miron Jenness.

Father Begley served in the new Catholic church until June of 1974. Father Thomas McDermott, who still serves the Wayne church, came that same month from Battle Creek where he was pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic and St. Francis Catholic Churches four years.

At present, St. Mary's Catholic Church has 660 baptized members. In addition, there is a St. Mary's Guild and St. Mary's School Board.

## School Bells Ring in Wayne County

# Education Process Starts In 1871

Formal education in Wayne County was organized on Sept. 5, 1870 when Dr. R.B. Crawford was named superintendent.

Actual classes didn't start until the following year after newly-elected school officials met with county commissioners and towns people to decide where schools would be built.

The first official school meeting was held at LaPorte on April 3, 1871, by moderator A.A. Fletcher, treasurer George Scott and director A.S. Miner. They agreed to set a levy of seven mills for a school building, a levy of two mills for a teacher fund and two-mill levy for a district contingent fund.

It was later that month that the county was divided into three school districts.

For several years, District 1 was known as "Bloody One" because of frequent wranglings and altercations among officers, employers, teachers and pupils.

District 1 was later reorganized to include Hancock, Brenna, Plum Creek, Leslie and the south half of Logan precincts. District 2 was near LaPorte and District 3 was at Hoskins.

The first school in Wayne County, District 3, was built near Hoskins in 1871 by Solon Bevins at a cost of \$1,500. The first teacher in District 1 was Miss Mary Keel and her pupils were the children of Isaac and A.P. Miner.

By October of 1932 a total of 88

districts had been formed throughout the county. Some of the districts and histories recorded included:

**District 5**—Better known as Frog Pond school, District 5 was located in Plum Creek precinct after the building had been moved from two other sites. In 1882, a school was built about three miles northeast of the present site and later moved to a mile west to accommodate students. When more settlers came to the territory the district was divided. Those persons in the east part of the district paid those in the west \$120 for the building to move a two miles east of the present site of District 5. The new district was numbered 32.

The first school board members of District 5 were Fred Pflueger, John Greenwald and Lars Booth. F.R. Springtube was the first teacher. His salary was \$37 a month.

**District 6**—It was formed June 12, 1872 and included all of Wilbur and the north part of Strahan and Hunter precincts. The first school house was built the following year on the Henry Rubbeck farm about three-fourths mile south of the present site.

Old records show that in early years the school and grounds were carefully guarded. Fire lines were plowed yearly from 1874 to 1885. In 1876 the sum of \$14 was spent for trees and, from time to time, sums were paid for plowing around and caring for the trees.

**District 7**—Located in the southeast corner of Wayne County on the Moses Herner land,

District 7 opened its doors in 1877. Miss Rena Buskirk was the first teacher. Her pupils included Mary, Jake and Lucy Boeckenhauer.

As many as 40 pupils have enrolled at one time in District 7. During the earliest years, Henry Nuernberger and his sister walked four and a half miles over the prairie to attend school before a closer district was formed.

Only six months of classes were held in 1918-19 because of influenza epidemic.

**District 13**—Known as Dilts school because it was located near the home of the late Levi Dilts, District 13 was built in the Logan precinct, one and a half miles south of Wakefield on Highway 92. The district was organized in 1881 with O.F. Crane, John T. Mettlen and David Ewing serving on the school board.

Miss Jennie Frazee was the first teacher when the school opened on Nov. 7, 1881. Nine pupils who enrolled were Bessie Ewing, Sadie Ewing, Will Crane, Bird Crane, Mary Mettlen, Jeannie Mettlen, Herbie Mettlen, Ella Johnson and Eddie Johnson.

**District 15**—On July 19, 1880 the district was organized. A half acre belonging to Ferrin Long was leased for the building, which was 18 by 26 feet.

Records show that the board intended to hold three months of school the first winter, but the building wasn't completed until spring. As a result, classes were held in the summer. The teacher was Clara Wilbur and her pupils were Eugene, George and Frank Wilbur, Mattie, Charles, Minnie and Josephine Long.

**District 16**—It was organized to include five sections of Hancock precinct. The school house was known as Northside when it was constructed in 1881 because a small settlement by that name was located near Winside. Like most structures, the school house wasn't warm during the winter months. As a result, students attended classes, sitting around a stove in their overcoats and overshoes.

**District 18**—Built in 1881, the district school house was located in the southwest quarter of section 28, township 27, range 2 east in Wayne County. The first school board consisted of L.W. Root as director, Randall Frazier as moderator and James A. Elliott as treasurer.

Mrs. E.J. Schemp was the first teacher and her salary was \$30 a month. District 18 at one time included five sections and was located about one and a half miles east of Carroll.

**District 21**—The school was organized on Nov. 20, 1882 and was located six miles southwest

of Winside. Known as Apex, the school structure was built in 1883. Also during that same year county superintendent G.M. Lodge reported that Districts 18, 20 and 21 had not had the required number of months of classes and weren't entitled to state apportionment. As a result terms were held in the summer of 1883.

**District 28 South**—Children of the community first attended District 28 North. In 1889 it was decided that the school was too far for children to go so 28 South was built.

Among the first settlers in the vicinity were Fred Pepperkorn and the Westerhaus families.

**District 36**—The first settler in school District 36 was Thomas James, who came in 1883. The first school was built on the southwest corner of the Oliver Jones farm before it was moved a mile north.

W.M. James was the first teacher and he taught for \$30 a month in 1885-86.

**District 43**—It was organized at a meeting on March 12, 1886 with county superintendent A.A. Welch presiding. Located in Hunter precinct one-half mile south and three-fourths east of Wayne, the school was formed from parts of Districts 2, 17 and 19.

The first census showed the

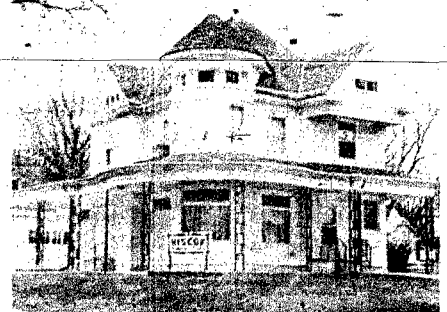
(Continued on following page)

## New School Houses Started Poppin'

### Over Wayne County in Late 1800's



1905



1975



STEVE SCHUMACHER

Steve Schumacher was born and raised in Logan, Ia. In 1966 he followed his father in the mortuary business by graduating from the Dallas Institute.

After a year apprenticeship, Schumacher joined his father in business back in Logan. January of 1973 brought Schumacher to Wayne and Hiscox-Schumacher Funeral Homes of Wayne and Carroll were formed.

Wayne

**HISCOX-SCHUMACHER  
FUNERAL HOMES**



ARMAND HISCOX

Armand Hiscox started in the mortuary business in Wayne 44 years ago.

After graduating from the Williams Institute of Embalming in Kansas City, Armand returned to his hometown in 1932 and opened the Hiscox Funeral Home at 425 Lincoln.

Armand's business career, however, was interrupted by World War II when he was drafted in 1943. After the war Armand settled in Indiana and didn't return to Wayne until 1959 when he reopened his mortuary business at its present site at 302 Lincoln.

He remodeled the interior of the present business in 1969.

Carroll

KTCH Radio signed on the air March 28, 1968, and KTCH-FM Radio signed on the air on October 19, 1975. KTCH-FM added stereo in February on 1976 to become the first area radio station to broadcast in stereo. KTCH was placed on the air by Mel and Tom Gleason and they operated the station until 1971 when the station was purchased by Wyman and Willa Schnepf. They operated KTCH until December of 1974 when the station was bought by Theodore S. Storck, the present owner and manager.

KTCH operates at 1590 kilohertz with a power output of 500 watts. KTCH-FM operates at 104.9 megahertz with a radiated power of 3,000 watts, horizontal and vertical stereo. The two stations serve the counties of Wayne, Pierce, Cuming, Cedar, Madison, Stanton, Dixon, Dakota and Thurston, although the signal radiates into adjacent counties and into South Dakota and Iowa. KTCH broadcasts direct each day from Laurel, Wakefield, Wisner and Pender. Both stations are served by the American Broadcasting network, United Press International and the weather wire.

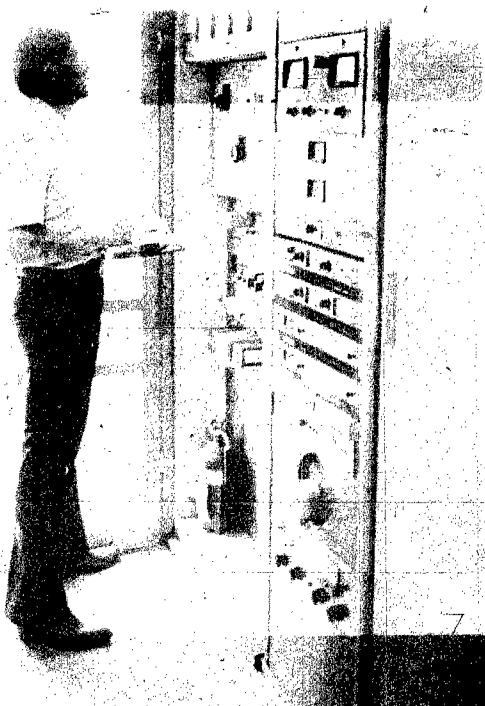
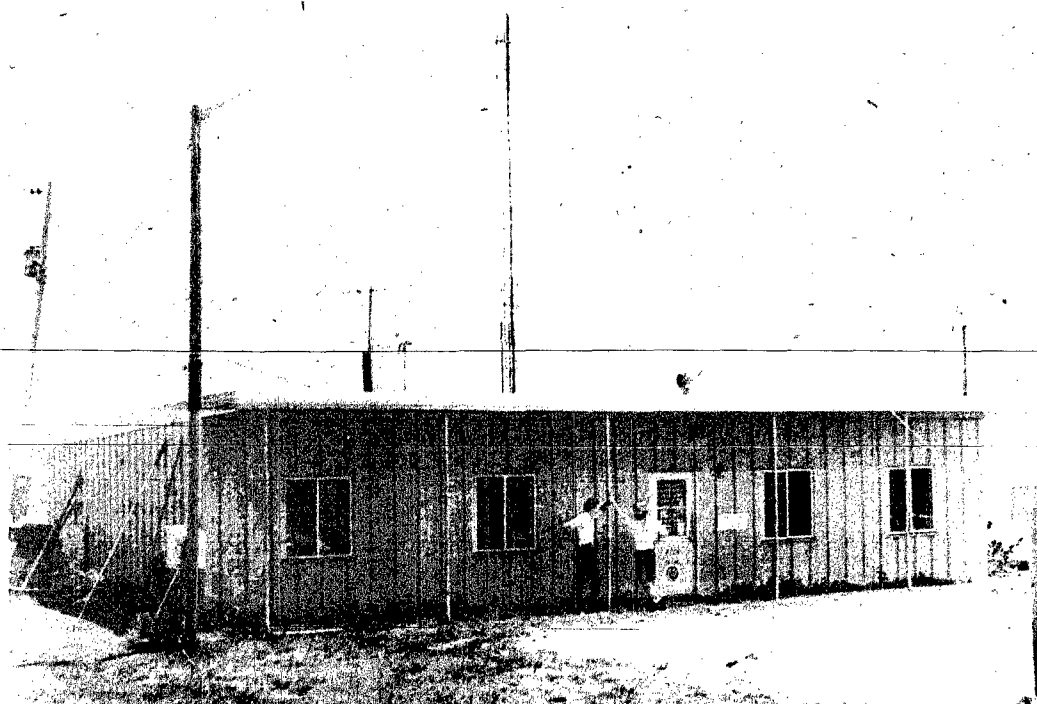
The present employees are the manger, Theodore S. Storck; traffic manager, Jan Lehman; engineer, Doug Thompson; announcers, Dan Baddorf, J. Alan Johnson, Mark Smith and Tim Garvin; account executive David Adams; sports director Gerry Hix; and area correspondents, Doris Linafelter, Ione Storie, Elaine Bak and Lois White.



## KTCH — 1590 AM

## KTCH — 105 FM Stereo

*Vibrant Radio for Northeast Nebraska*



# Rural Schools

(Rural Schools continued)  
 names of 24 children of school age in the families of James Conner, C.F. Carpenter, S. Woodrow, Judson Garwood, Mrs. Hannah Bays, John Bays, Willis Bronson, J.K. Bartlett, John Conner, Mike Lower, William Cuttler and Mac Willis.

District 44—Tagged as the Morris school, the district was founded four miles west of Carroll.

The district was organized in 1886. Frank Berry was the teacher and his students included Caradoc, Lot and Bonner Morris.

District 51—In 1890 settlers built their school for "the welfare of the children." The structure was financed by William Frazier.

District 53—Henry Wittler, Leopold Rehmus and William Hoffman were named as board members for the new district in

1887. Because materials were difficult to get in those days, lumber had to be hauled by a team and wagon from Pilger, a distance of 13 miles.

The original structure was used until 1910 when it was enlarged and a porch was added.

Previous to 1894, four months of classes were held each winter.

District 54—Known as the Wadsworth school because of Richard Wadsworth's involvement in the district's beginning, the district was believed to have been the first in Sherman precinct.

Members of the first school board were Richard Wadsworth, Jenkin Davies and O.C. Lewis.

District 59—Petitions from members of Districts 6, 13 and 42 early in 1889 resulted in the establishment of this school district. A total of 20 teachers had

taught at the school district.

District 60—Some of the pioneers of the district included John Lenser, Herman Kruger, Robert Fenske, Fred Muehlmeier and Fred Wooschlager who helped to organize the district in 1889.

Fenske circulated a petition to establish the school and in 1889 the first school board was made up of director Fenske, moderator Kruger and treasurer Louis Wooschlager. Avy Wright of Hoskins was the first teacher.

District 62—A petition signed by 58 legal voters and presented to county superintendent W.E. Howard in October of 1889, asked that District 62 be organized to include six sections in Chapin precinct.

School opened on Jan. 6, 1890 under the direction of Miss Jennie Dobbin. First pupils were Mary Harrington, Guy Saunders, Willie Saunders, Henry Petersen, Thomas Sundahl, Everett Sundahl, Hans Sundahl, Willie Sundahl, Maggie Sundahl, Emma Sundahl and Veta Erickson.

District 63—When District 63 school house was built in 1889, Vern Cooper was director of the board, W.H. Fisher moderator and Nels Hansen treasurer. First pupils were Purk Fischer, N.C. Hansen, H.C. Hansen and Elmer Fischer. Miss Lucy Bruner taught the first term and Miss Cora Dunkel taught the second term.

District 64—The first school was built in 1891 and Miss Lisa Park was the first teacher.

District 65—School is District 65 was well established in the early 1890's. Miss Emma Berry was one of the early teachers. First pupils included Grant Simmerman and Freddie Millener.

District 66—District 66 was built on its present location seven and a half miles north and

one west of Wayne in 1890.

One of the first residents in the district was Fred Krel who built a homestead a half mile north and one east of the school. The family lived in a dugout.

District 68—District 68 was called the Flag school because it was the first rural school in the county to have a staff with a big flag.

District 72—It was organized in the fall of 1893 from part of District 48. Angie Wadsworth was the first teacher. She earned \$35 a month.

At one time the district had two teachers. Charles Beckman was hired to teach while Pearl Bell was ill with quinsy. After a few weeks she resumed work but Beckman was still under contract. Both drew salaries before Beckman was paid a bonus and decided to return to college.

Other early teachers were Mary Benning, Bert Brown and Della Cook.

District 74—District 74 originally was organized from sections 5, 6, 7 and 8 of Garfield precinct in March, 1893.

Fall, winter and spring terms were first held and vacation was in November for corn picking. The first nine-month term was in 1905.

District 77—Located two miles west and five and a half north of Hoskins, District 77 was formed in 1897. Frankie Stimson was employed as the first teacher and conducted three terms between January, 1897, and March 1898. Pupils were arranged in grades A, B and C according to their achievements. Only reading, writing and arithmetic were taught.

Nebraska's poet Laureate, John G. Neihardt, taught in the district from December of 1898 through the following March.

District 78—District 78 was

named North Valley for the community in which it was located. The building was built in 1898 by Alvin Johnson and is still in use.

George Drevesen, Hans Gottsch and Charles Maas were the first members on the school board. They elected Miss Christina Lundquist the first teacher.

District 82—The district was without a building for some years and pupils had to attend District 38 south of Randolph. In 1903 superintendent Charles Bright assisted patrons of the district to secure a school. The building was bought from Weber's corner. Miss Junie Davidson was the first teacher.

District 86—Prior to 1915 pupils in District 86 attended school in District 78 or Hoskins. Because of the traveling distance, it was decided to build a new school.

Among those who were in the district when the building was put up were Carl Jochens, William Maas, Andrew Johnson, Louis Nurnberg and Frank Maas.

District 88—District 88 was formed because taxpayers felt that a school could be maintained at a much lower cost than the cost of maintaining the Wayne public school.

In 1930 legal attempts were made to establish a separate district. It wasn't until April of 1932 that the district won permission to separate.

A committee of three chose a site for a school, which was located west of Wayne County fairgrounds. The land was purchased from Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Andrews.

Of the 88 districts formed, only 18 rural schools and two high schools, Wayne and Win- side, remain.

*'Taxpayers in District 88 felt that a school could be maintained at a much lower cost than the cost of maintaining a Wayne public school.'*



**MELDOEE LANES — 1976**

The Melodee Lanes at 1221 Lincoln has provided bowling facilities for Wayne area keggers for over 20 years.

The business was started in 1954 by Al Bahe. At that time there were eight alleys in the establishment. In 1960 the number of lanes was increased to a dozen and in August of 1970 the business was sold to the current owners, Vel and Adeline Kienast. The Kienasts remodeled part of the interior of Melodee Lanes in 1973.

Before coming to Wayne, Vel was involved in the bowling business as a construction supervisor and serviceman for AMF.

# MELODEE LANES

1221 Lincoln

Phone 375-3390

WAYNE, NEBRASKA



**Adeline**



**Vel**

St. Mary's Catholic

# School Provides Religious Education

Forty-three students attended classes in Wayne's only Catholic school when it was completed in 1953.

Named St. Mary's Grade School, the school included grades one through eight and was under the direction of Father Robert Hupp, who now is the director at Boys Town.

According to a pamphlet published about the dedication of the new St. Mary's Catholic Church, "The highlight of Father Hupp's years in Wayne was the great desire he had to build a parochial grade school to insure a Catholic education for our children. Sensing this great need and with the cooperation of his parishioners, the pastor proceeded to formulate his plans. Six acres of land on East Seventh Street were purchased for the school site. The necessary funds were secured to begin operations, an architect, Mr. E. J. Huntfermer, formerly of Wayne, drew the plans, a home contractor, Mr. Frank Thielman, took over and work began in earnest.

"Ground was broken on Sept. 8, 1952 and by June of 1953, the building was up and enclosed, the furnace was in, cement floors were laid in the kitchen and auditorium, desks for all the classrooms were also here, a building had been purchased from the State to be used as a convent for four Benedictine Sisters, who had been promised to be sent in August by Mother Consolata from the Mother House at Norfolk. Up to this point, a large part of the heavy labor had been done by the pastor and his volunteer parish helpers.

"On June 13, with the school

project thus far completed, Father Hupp was transferred back to Omaha to undertake the building of the new Christ the King Parish, and was succeeded by Reverend Father Wm. C. Klieffman of St. Rose, Hooper and St. Lawrence, Scribner parishes."

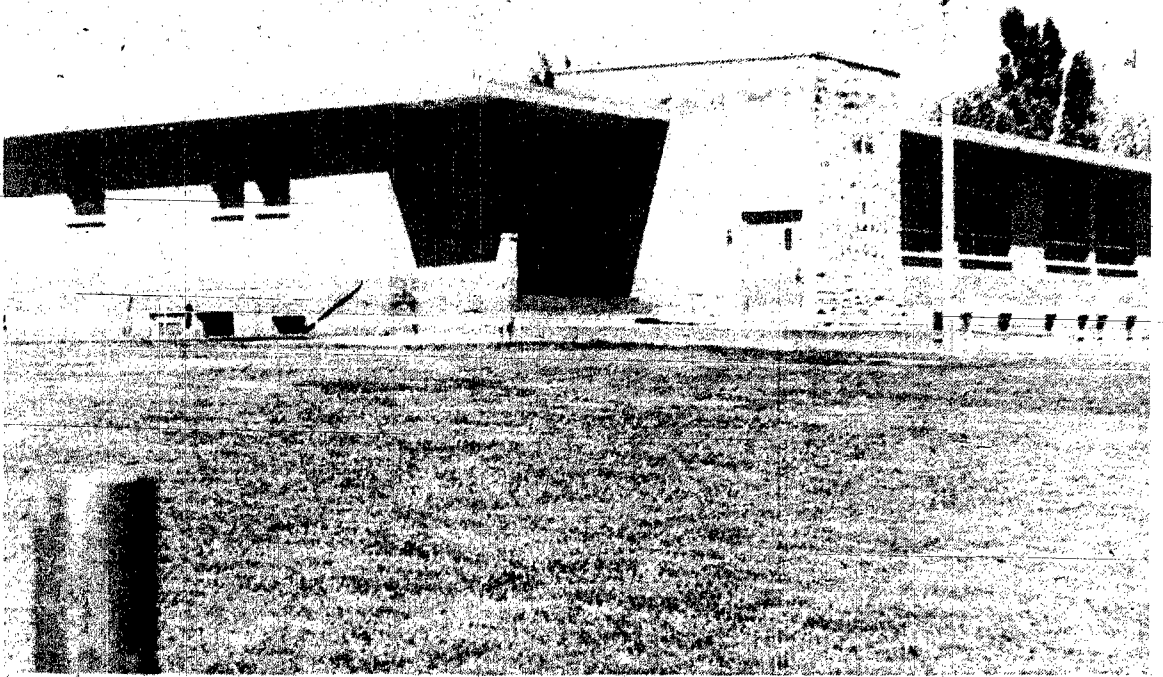
In 1958 a school board was formed and it included Larry DeForge, Angie Denesia, Ron Dendinger, Jean Nuss, Vona Shärer and Vic Haase.

First teachers were Sisters Ludovica, Joseph, Josephine and Mary Iniga, principal. When the staff was cut to three, the school

was forced to eliminate grades seven and eight.

The staff now is composed of three lay teachers. They are principal Mrs. Ellie Seward who teaches grades five and six, Mrs. Donna Goeden, three and four, and Mrs. Terri Bowder, one and two.

School board members this year were Harold Murray, president of the board and Dale Poehlman, Mrs. Germaine Kaup, Lee Kovensky, Jerry Sperry and Joe Dorcay. Pastor is Father Thomas McDermott.



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Three of Sherry's Egg Trucks in the 1930's

For over 35 years the name Sherry Brothers has been a part of the Wayne business community.

In 1940 Orville Sherry bought out Johnson Brothers produce and feed and in 1941 Dan Sherry leased his service station south of Wayne and joined Orville to form Sherry Bros. The business grew quickly with the brothers buying the first carload of fertilizer to be delivered in Northeast Nebraska during the 1940's. Also during the 40's the Sherry Brothers built a huge egg business in Wayne. By 1950 the Sherrys had six trucks on the road delivering eggs to 24 states.

By the early 1960's the Sherry Brothers got out of the produce part of the business and Dan sold out his interest to Orville. Orville eventually started a TSC store in Wayne and in 1973 sold the feed and fertilizer business to Dan's son Bob Sherry. Orville sold the TSC store in 1974.

In October of 1975, Sherry Brothers was reformed with another of Dan's sons, Don and Bob getting together to form Sherry Brothers Tru-Value Hardware at 116 W. First. In 1976, together with Tru-Value hardware, the Sherry Brothers also sell feeds and fertilizer and chemicals.



116 West First — 1976



**SHERRY BROS.**

FARM & HOME CENTER

Phone 375-2082

Free Parking West of Building



**CLARENCE KUHN**

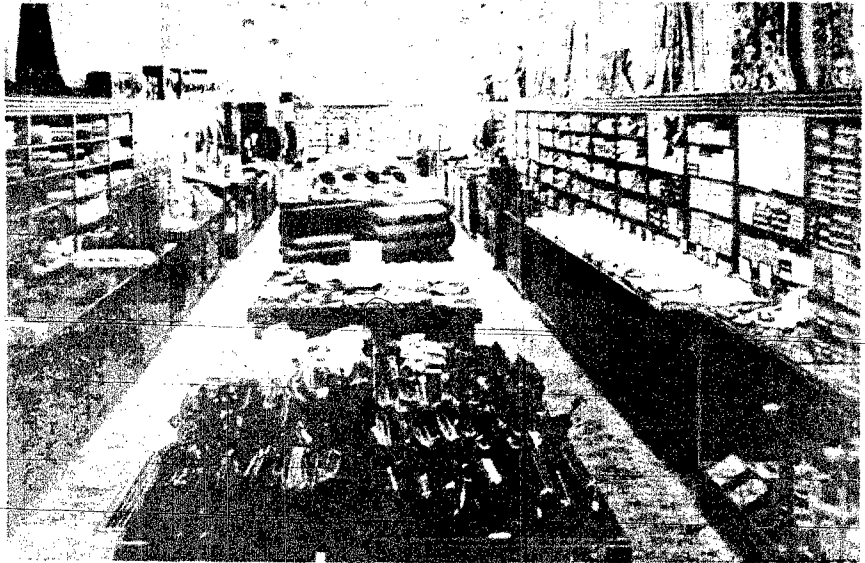
# Kuhn's

"WE NEVER SAY NO"

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**1946  
Interior**

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## Present Location

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## History

Kuhn's was founded in 1922 by R.L. Larson. Mr. Larson moved to Wayne from Randolph, Ne. He started with a 25 foot front and 100 foot deep building. In a few years he extended the building to its present size and added a basement. It was then a variety store with men and boys clothing and groceries with the name being Larsons. In 1946 Mr. Larson sold 1/2 interest in the building to Clarence Kuhn. Mr. Larson retired and Mr. Kuhn was general manager with Kermit Florine as assistant manager. The name was changed to Larson-Kuhn. In 1951, Larson-

Kuhn-Florine opened the present men's clothing store across the street. As business grew they opened stores in Columbus, Ne 1956 — Norfolk, Ne 1961 and added the present ladies store across the street in 1974. All these stores operated under the name of Larson-Kuhn. Mr. Kuhn sold his interest in 1965 of all his stores except his present store and changed the name to Kuhn's, he also purchased the entire store. Also in 1965, Mr. Kuhn completely remodeled the main floor of his present store.



# Winside In 1886 To 1920's



THE CARTER STORE in the late 1890's, top photo, pictured several Winside residents, including "Doc" Averill, Vere Carter, A.H. Carter, A.T. Chapin, A.B. Clark, J.C. Bender, who was station agent, P.F. Panabaker, editor, and A.S. McCoppin, merchant. Others in the picture are Mrs. James Hornby, John F. Crosby, Elvire Crosby Miller, Frank Benser and Mrs. A.H. Carter. Winside's depot, bottom left, was built in the summer of 1886 at the south edge of the park. The building was torn down in 1967. Carl Wolfe owned a harness shop, bottom right, in Winside in the 1920's.



**Mr. & Mrs. Al Wittig**

**WITTIG'S**



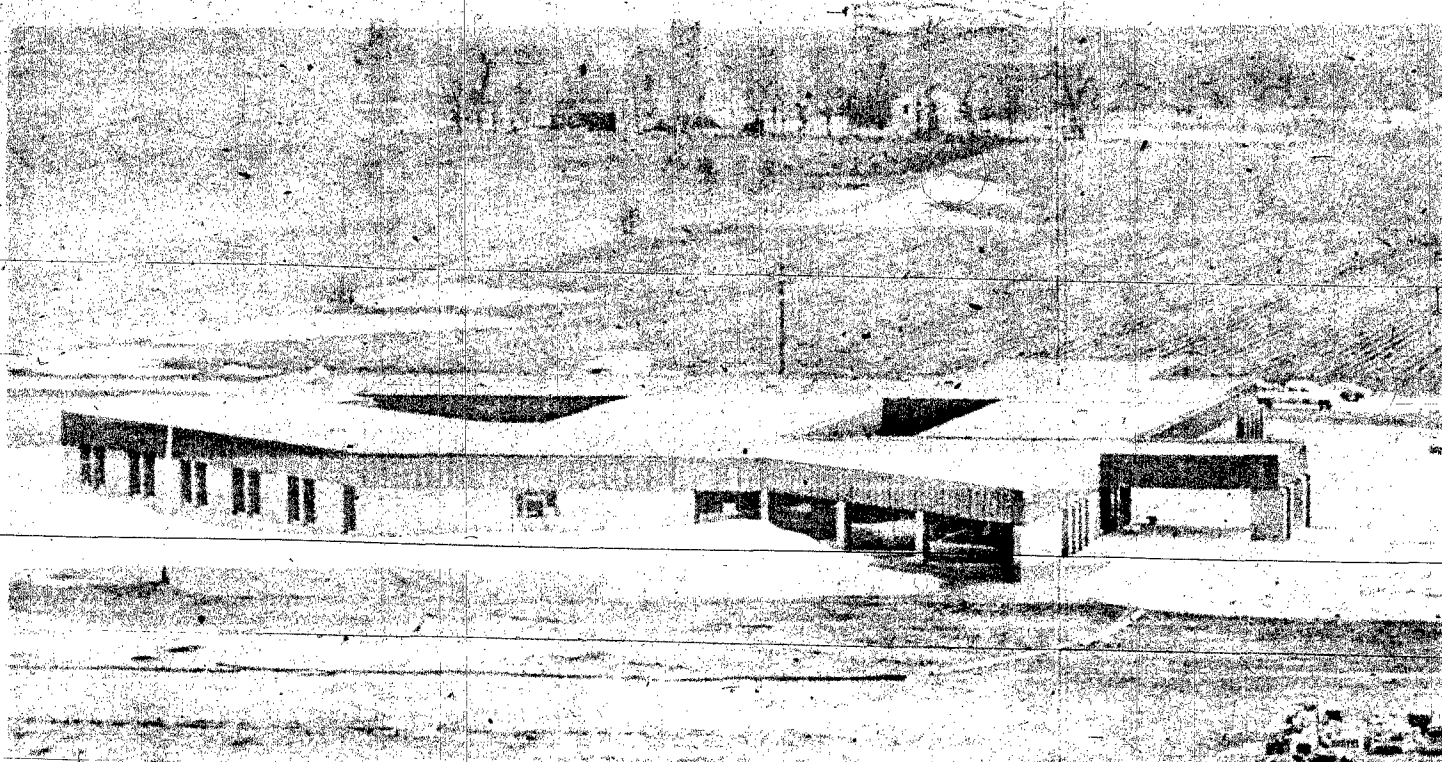
**— HISTORY —**

Al and Don purchased the Super Valu grocery store April 30, 1962 from Elary Rinehart, a veteran of 15 years in the grocery business. They moved to Wayne from Fort Dodge, Iowa.

In August 1969 Don sold his share of the store to Al and moved to Broken Bow, Nebraska.

In January, 1975 the name of the business was changed to Wittig's Food Center.





**DEDICATION** ceremonies for Wayne's new Providence Medical Center were held on Aug. 24, 1975. Archbishop Daniel Sheehan of the Omaha Diocese addressed the nearly 2,500 persons who were present for the dedication. Capable

of caring for twice as many patients, the new hospital is a 42,025 square foot plant, nearly four times larger than the old hospital.

# PMC Fulfills Dream

A long-awaited dream for residents of the Wayne area was realized in August of 1975. Dedication ceremonies were held for the new Providence Medical Center.

For more than a decade, the need for a new hospital facility was evident. Obsolescent physical facilities in the old Wayne Hospital, including a shortage of space, functional defects, and the impossibility of making the building fireproof, pointed up the need since before 1960.

None of the rooms in the 26-bed facility, which had served the community for over 30 years, conformed to hospital standards.

The need for improved and enlarged health care facilities was evident by population increase figures alone, and became even more critical because of the fact that only three physicians remained in Wayne County.

When the former hospital was opened in 1941, Wayne's population (1940 census) was 2,719. The 1970 census of 5,380 showed that even though the population had doubled from 30 years ago, families were still served by the same medical facility.

The former 26-bed hospital was constructed in 1942 by Dr. Walter Benthack and became Wayne Municipal Hospital following an election in 1959.

The Wayne Hospital Foundation was formed in 1961 to deal with the problem of continued medical care. It was realized early in the 1970's that a new medical center would be needed.

An effort to form a hospital district with taxing authority was abandoned early in 1971 when objections were raised at a public hearing.

Later that year, the Benedictine Order of Sisters in Norfolk agreed to provide half the total cost of a \$1 million hospital if the Wayne area would raise the remainder and agree to allow the sisters to operate and maintain the facility.

The plans were announced jointly by Robert Carhart, chairman of the Wayne Hospital

Foundation board of directors, and Mother Anella Staber, O.S.B., prioress of the Benedictine Sisters of Norfolk.

Land for the project was acquired when the board of trustees of the state colleges gave eight acres of land adjacent to the Wayne State college campus on the condition that the facility be made available to students attending the school.

The initial \$500,000 was raised in a few months, but interviews with communities convinced the board that additional funds

would be needed.

Over \$880,000 was eventually raised through subscription-type pledges from area corporations, businesses, families and individuals. In addition, \$383,300 was obtained in federal Hill-Burton funds.

The initial plans were for the facility to be built on the northeast campus of Wayne State College with no Wayne city or Wayne county monies involved. The events of the next few months proved both of these plans true.

Caring for twice as many patients, the new hospital would be a 42,025 square foot plant, nearly four times larger than the old hospital.

Community leaders started the ball rolling. On Nov. 1, 1971, Carhart named Adon Jeffrey, then president of the First National Bank, as the general chairman of the Medical Center Building Program. Carhart and Harold E. Hein, president of the State National Bank, were named co-chairmen of the pattern gifts committee one week

later.

The fund-raising drive got a big boost by the 15th of the month when Jeffrey and Hein announced subscription gifts totaling \$75,000 from the two Wayne banks, representing 15 per cent of the \$500,000 total.

The board of directors of the State National Bank voted a \$46,500 five-year subscription. Similar action was taken by the First National Bank's board of directors who authorized a \$28,500 gift. The subscriptions were prorated by the two banks on the basis of total deposits according to their last statements.

In mid-November of '71, Dr. Walter Benthack became chairman for solicitation of the Wayne Hospital's medical staff and Mrs. Louise Jenness chairman for hospital employee solicitation.

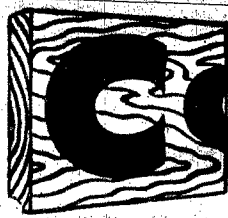
Late that month, Walter Moller, Wayne realtor, accepted the chairmanship of the special gifts division of the subscription campaign. On Nov. 29, the Wayne Hospital Auxiliary announced a \$9,000 gift to the fund drive.

Cal Ward, district extension director and superintendent of the University of Nebraska Northeast Station, became chairman of the service area division of the fund drive in December.

On Dec. 13, Wayne Federal Savings and Loan Association donated \$20,000 to the drive. (Continued on following page)



**ALTHOUGH IT** was no longer suitable for use as a medical facility, the old Wayne Hospital continues to be of public use. Following the transfer of equipment to Providence Medical Center, the building, built in 1941, was converted into a new city hall for Wayne. The city clerk and his office staff are housed in the south end of the first floor. The Wayne police department occupies the north half of the floor. City administrator Fred Brink's office is on the second floor, and work is currently underway to complete a new chamber for the council. Remodeling is also being completed in the basement, converting it for use as a new senior citizens center.



# Carhart LUMBER CO.

Phone 375-2110

Wayne, Nebr.

105 Main St.



## Serving Northeast Nebraska For **OVER 70 YEARS**

The Carhart Lumber Company opened its doors in Wayne in 1921 when Charles and Ben Carhart bought the Philleo and Harrington Lumber Company.

The two Carharts had been in Wayne since 1914. In that year they purchased Barreft and Dally Hardware. After 1921 Ben continued to operate the hardware store and Charles managed the lumber yard. The hardware store was later sold to L.W. McNatt.

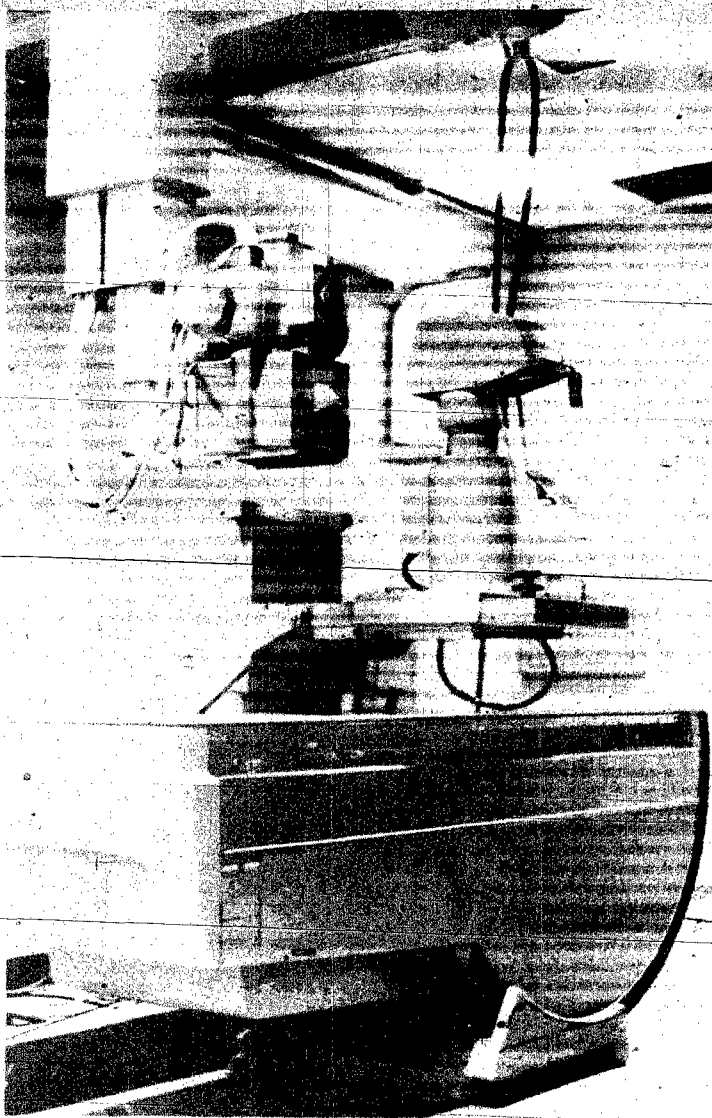
More than 70 years ago Carharts owned lumber yards in Carroll, Brunswick, Orchard

and Osmond which they sold prior to coming to Wayne. In 1976 there are 10 Carhart lumber yards in Northeast Nebraska. Carhart yards are located in Wayne, O'Neill, Neligh, Randolph, Hartington, Tilden, Bloomfield, Pierce, Plainview and Albion.

Carharts has been actively engaged in the lumber and building supply business in Northeast Nebraska for over 70 years and is continuing to improve its facilities to better serve the people of the area

## **WE HAVE WHAT YOU NEED . . .**

<p><b>PLUMBING</b> Sinks, Faucets, Toilets, Toilet Seats, Copper Pipe, PVC Pipe, Fittings, Replacement Parts.</p>	<p><b>PAINT</b> Glidden Paint, Olympic Stain, Woodstain, Spray Paint, Paint Remover, Thinners, Dropcloths, Brushes.</p>	<p><b>ELECTRICAL</b> Complete stock and wiring materials, Conduit, Connectors, Switches, Recepticals, Switch Plates, Extension cords, Lamp parts, Complete stock of lighting fixtures, including ceiling lights, wall lamps, Swags, and Gro-Lites.</p>	<p><b>POWER TOOLS</b> Black &amp; Decker, Rockwell, Complete line of Jig Saws, Circular Saws, Sabresaws, Radial Arm Saws, Mitre Saws, Drills, Drillpresses.</p>
<p><b>CARPET</b> Shags, kitchen carpet, indoor-outdoor, Astroturf, Beattie, Armstrong, Americana, Capitol, Montecello, Dan River, Saxony.</p>	<p><b>BUILDING SUPPLIES</b> Complete line of Lumber and Plywoods, Paneling, hardwoods, Gypsum board, Nails, All-purpose compound, Moulding, Doors, Frame jambs, Stormdoors, Screen Doors, Insulation, Roofing, Wood fencing, Lawn fence, Barbed wire, Steel fence posts, Round treated posts, Ceiling tile, Suspended ceiling parts, Hardboard siding, Plywood siding, Dri-mix and regular cement.</p>	<p><b>HARDWARE</b> Amerock cabinet hardware. Stanley hand tools. Plumb, Estwing and Stanley Hammers. Weiser locks, Wrenches, Replacement storm door locks, hinges, Sawhorse brackets, Screens, bolts and chains.</p>	<p><b>BUILDING ASSISTANCE</b> A staff of true professionals to help you in planning and estimating your projects, no matter how large or small. Headquarters for both Contractors and Do-it-yourselfers.</p>
<p><b>LAWN AND GARDEN</b> Scotts, Fertilizers, Garden Seeds, Spreaders, Border fence, Trellises, Metal lawn trim, Rakes, Shovels, Hoes, Lawn Edgers, Trimmers, Hose reels.</p>			<p><b>CUSTOM MANUFACTURING</b> Panelized Wall Sections, Roof trusses, Trussed floor joists to Your Specifications.</p>



## Donations Exceed Goal

(Medical Center continued) Association president John Bressler made the announcement as Wayne's three financial institutions pushed the fund drive over the \$100,000 mark.

By Dec. 16, the total subscriptions had reached \$248,530, including \$30 turned over by Wayne State College's Bowen Hall. Adding to the subscription total was a \$100 gift from the young women of Neihardt Hall at the college.

The halfway mark of the campaign was passed on Dec. 20 when Mrs. Jenness announced that 38 employees of the Wayne Hospital had subscribed \$9,032 to the fund drive. Most of the employees signed payroll deduction authorization forms for one hour per paycheck for the five-year subscription period.

Contributions continued during the early part of 1972, and included \$1,500 from Wayne Firemen; \$1,000 from the American Association of University Women; \$250 from the Acme Club in memory of Mrs. Fred Blair, a former member; and \$750 from Wayne mayor Kent Hall, representing his annual salary as mayor.

Roy Christensen, general manager of Carhart Lumber Co., and Edward Owen, president of Paxton and Vierling Steel Co. of Sioux City, donated \$5,000 to the hospital drive. Friends since their college days, Christensen received a check from Owen for \$5,000 for the fund.

Other donations included \$100

THE X-RAY machine shown at left is one example of the modern equipment available at Providence Medical Center.

from the Royal Neighbors Lodge; \$1,500 from the Wayne Jaycees; \$500 from the Wayne PEO chapter; and a \$2,000 pledge from Wayne Lions Club. On the Wayne State campus, the theatre department pledged the money from one benefit performance of Oedipus Rex.

A banner headline in The Wayne Herald on Feb. 14, less than a month before the end of the subscription campaign, announced the good news: "Over the Top in Medical Center Drive!" At that time the total, \$535,228, represented 107 per cent of the goal.

But, contributions were still needed and the campaign continued towards its end in early March.

In late February, William Norvell, chairman of the city of Laurel, announced \$22,505 in pledges and Wayne's Royal Neighbors of America lodge pledged \$100. Former Kiwanian Dr. Alward E. Brown willed \$1,000 to the fund and the Wayne Kiwanis Club matched the gift. Winside resident Mrs. Virginia Chapin McCain made a \$20,000 gift and Dart Industries Inc., of Florida, donated \$25,000 to the fund via a former Wayne resident, Hamer Frank Wilson III.

On March 3, 1972, the total pledges, \$866,602, were announced and a victory celebration was held. The total represented 173 per cent of the original goal.

Even though the big donations marked the progress of the drive, it took hundreds of smaller donors to bring about the staggering total.

More than 1,400 smaller subscriptions represented over half the total.

The Benedictine Sisters were (Continued on following page)

# Commercial State Bank

HOSKINS, NEBRASKA

## STATEMENT OF CONDITION

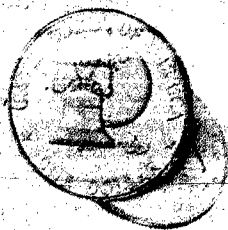
March 31, 1976

### ASSETS

Loans and Discounts .....		\$4,880,744.06
U.S. Treasury Securities .....	\$219,593.43	
U.S. Government Agency Securities .....	139,964.97	
Municipal Bonds and Warrants .....	50,000.00	
Cash and Due from Banks .....	502,441.34	911,999.74
Banking House, Furniture and Fixtures .....		20,111.89
		<hr/>
		\$5,812,885.69

### LIABILITIES

Capital Stock .....	\$125,000.00	
Surplus .....	225,000.00	
Undivided Profits and Reserves .....	154,022.60	504,022.60
Deposits .....		5,308,863.09
		<hr/>
		\$5,812,885.69



### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

FRED OTTEN, Ex. Vice President  
 JAMES MILLER, Assistant Vice Pres.  
 SANDRA LENZ, Assistant Cashier  
 LINDA LANGENBERG, Bookkeeping  
 BEVERLY SCHWEDE, Bookkeeping

SHIRLEY MANN, Cashier  
 ERIC MEIERHENRY, Director  
 GEORGE LANGENBERG, Director  
 EZRA JOCHENS, Director  
 NORRIS LANGENBERG, Director



**Mr. & Mrs. Carl Nuss**

# BEN FRANKLIN®

The Ben Franklin Store was started in 1908 by J.C. Nuss and was located in the present State National Farm Management building. In 1912 the business was moved to the location now occupied by Kaup's TV Service and in 1918 moved to the present location. Its size then was 25' x 90'. In 1928 they extended the back of the building to its present-day size. In 1941 the building to the north was purchased from Mr. Kerchman and completely remodeled.

In 1928 Carl and his sister, Helen, joined their father in the business and after his death they went into partnership with Carl as manger. In 1940, Carl bought his sister's share when she moved to Hartington to manage a store they purchased in 1933.

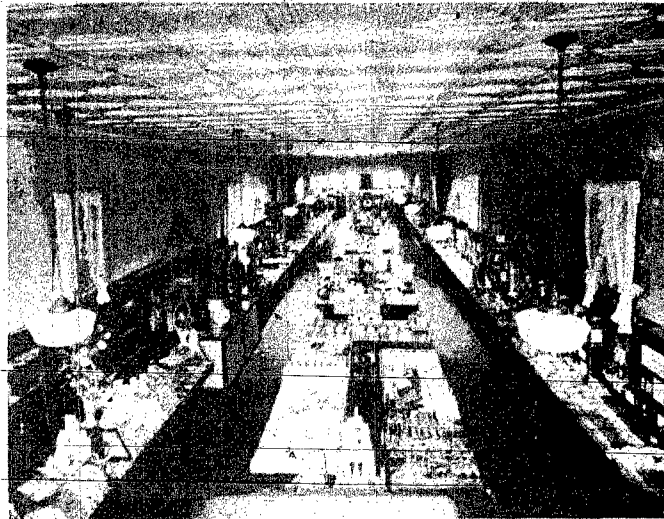
Jean Nuss joined his father in the business in 1951 and Joe Nuss joined in 1958.



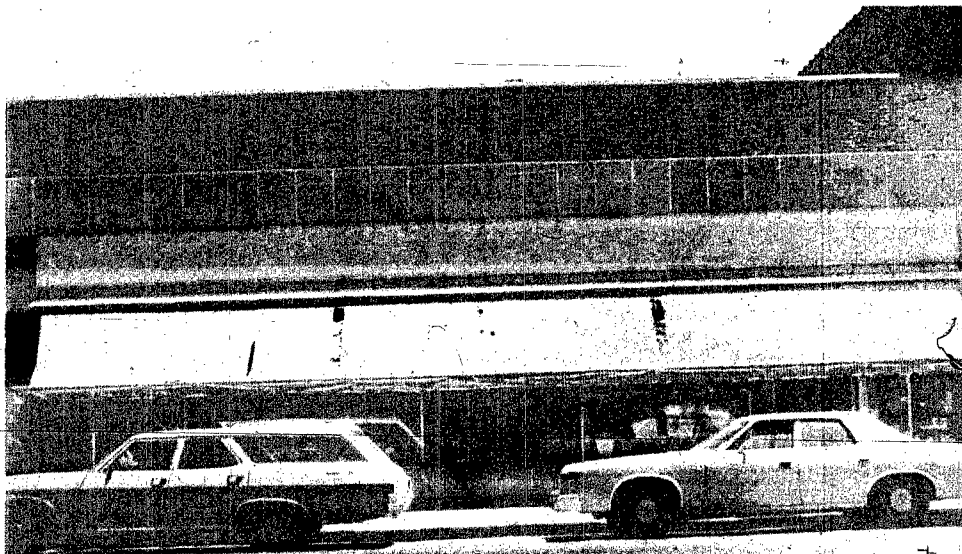
**Jean Nuss**



**Joe Nuss**



**1918**



**1976**



## Big Al's Place

109 MAIN STREET — PHONE 375-9947

*Al Mohlfeld, owner*

**Bar & Grill — 'Where The Action Is'**

**ON & OFF SALE**

Open 10 a.m. - 1 a.m.

Closed Sundays

WATCH OUR ADS  
FOR ENTERTAINMENT  
& DANCING

Open Monday  
thru  
Saturday  
9 a.m. - 1 a.m.

**Sunday — 12 - 12**



1 MILE SOUTH ON HWY. 15  
PHONE 375-9903

*Pat & Linda Young, owners*

## Valley Squire Bar



## GET DOWN TO Mike's Tavern

For All Your 8-Ball & Foosball Action!



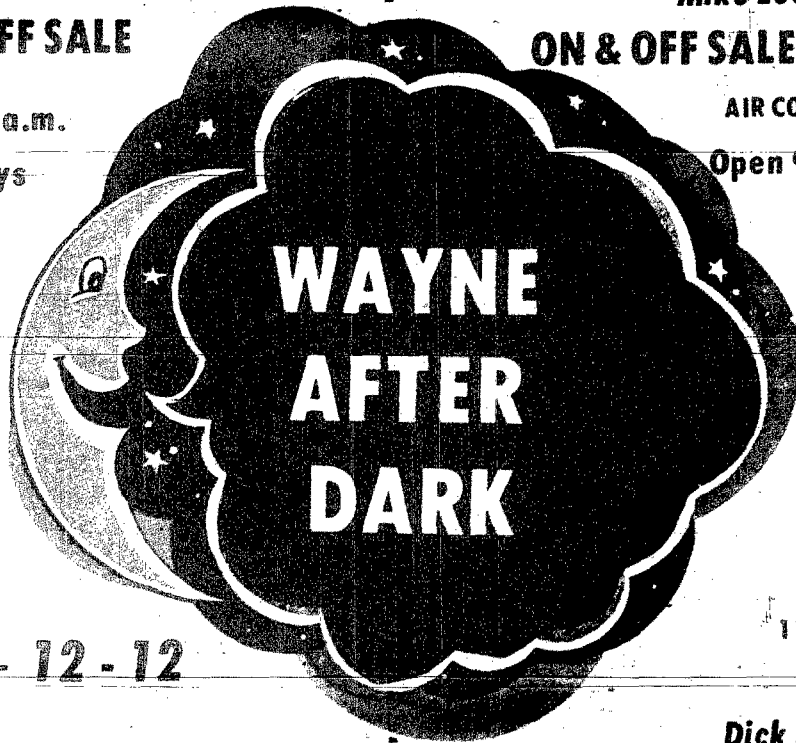
*Mike Loofe*

**ON & OFF SALE LIQUOR & BEER**

AIR CONDITIONED

Open 9 a.m. to 1 a.m. Daily  
Except Sunday

102 MAIN STREET  
PHONE 375-9958



## Nu Tavern

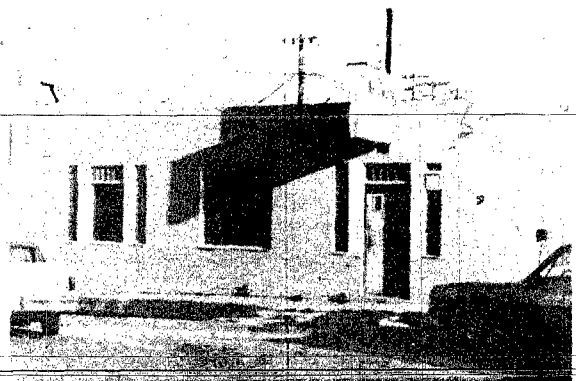
111 EAST THIRD STREET  
PHONE 375-9990

*Dick Korn, owner*

## Blue Ribbon On Tap

Open Monday thru Saturday — 8 a.m. - 1 a.m.

**ON & OFF SALE BEER & LIQUOR**



## Dedication in 1975

(Medical Center continued)

making final revisions of the floor plan by the fall of 1972, the Foundation had ordered outside signs for the building and surveying was being done for the layout of water lines to the new facility.

On May 14, 1973, Dr. Lyle Seymour, president of Wayne State College, and Mother Imelda Koch of the Benedictine

Sisters helped turn over the first scoops of dirt for what is to be called the Providence Medical Center.

By early June, another \$10,000 in pledges were received. Through the next two years work progressed on the new facility and in August of 1975 hospital administrator Charles Thomas announced plans for an Aug. 24 open house and dedi-

cation.

Archbishop Daniel Sheehan of the Omaha Diocese addressed the 2,500 persons attending the dedication ceremonies. The invocation was given by the Rev. Robert Haas, president of the Wayne Ministerial Association. Mrs. Richard Keidel, president of the Wayne Hospital Foundation, welcomed the guests.

Speakers included Wayne mayor Freeman Decker; Wayne State College president Dr. Lyle Seymour; Dr. Robert Benthack, chief of staff at the medical center, and Mother Imelda Koch, representing the Missionary Benedictine Sisters.

Service units within the new

Medical Center include nursing, two surgery suites, intensive care (including cardiac monitoring), obstetrics and nursery, pediatrics, inhalation therapy, physical therapy, emergency suite, radiology (including therapeutic as well as diagnostic), laboratory, dietary department, family-clery room, chapel, doctor's library, nurses lounge, employees' area, Hospital Auxiliary room and gift shop, central sterile supply and central stores.

In addition, there is an ample lobby, an outpatient waiting area, quarters for the Sisters and a Chaplain, and plenty of off-street parking.

The medical center now has beds for 30 patients, but adequate service facilities were provided to allow for eventual expansion to 50 beds.

The new Medical Center,

which is operated on a voluntary non-profit basis with the Sisters responsible for administration and an advisory board of Wayne area men and women, provides comprehensive health care services for all persons in Wayne and the service area.

The old hospital building has been converted into city offices, including the police department; city clerk, utility billing offices, general administration, consulting engineer's office, mayor's office, and director of civil defense.

Renovation is underway for rooms for the city council and planning commission, public meeting rooms and recreation room. The Wayne Senior Citizens Center, currently located at 316 Main St., will be housed in the basement of the old hospital as soon as remodeling is completed.



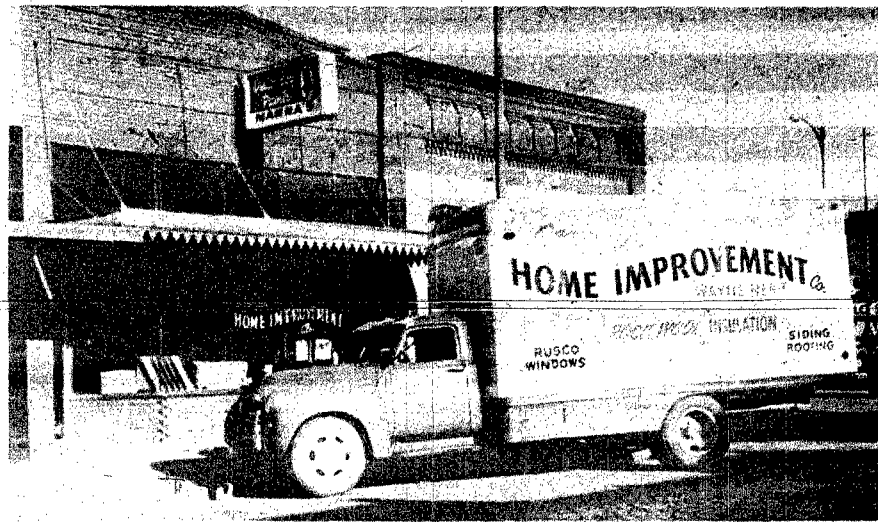
## Continued Partnership

In photograph at left, Wayne mayor Freeman Decker presented keys to a new ambulance to Mother Imelda Koch, head of the Benedictine Sisters. City administrator Fred Brink and Providence Medical Center director Therese are also shown.

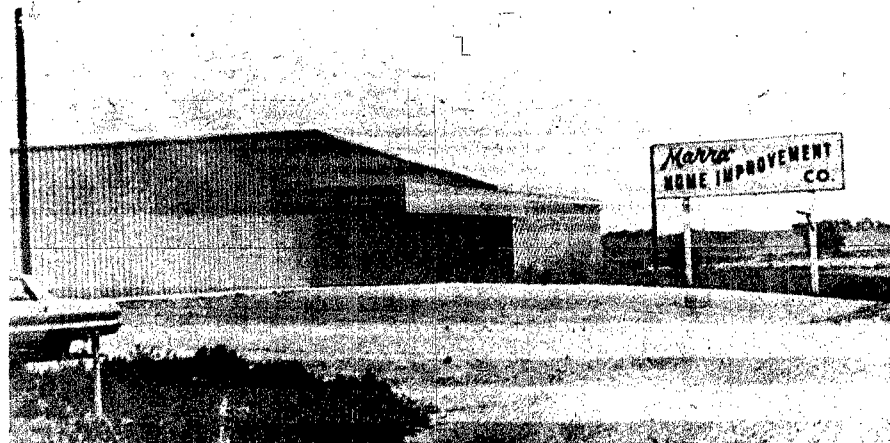
The city purchased the ambulance, which is operated by the Benedictine Sisters at Providence Medical Center.

The limousine type ambulance is the only one of its kind in Northeast Nebraska and allows the Benedictine Sisters to continue to provide quality emergency medical services in the region.

Registered nurses at Providence Medical Center serve as attendants when the ambulance is called, ensuring that qualified medical attention is available to accident victims. Nurses are able to communicate with the hospital via radio, allowing them to inform the hospital regarding what kind of emergency treatment will be needed when the ambulance arrives, and, at the same time, to receive advice from doctors while the ambulance is en route.



Marra's in the early 1950's at their 220 Main location



Marra's in 1976

## Growing With The Building Needs Of The Wayne Area For 26 YEARS

On May 1, 1950, the Marra Home Improvement Company became a reality in a building at 116 Main in Wayne. Wilmer and Luella Marra rented the building from Bernie Meyer.

Two years later the business moved to 220 Main where the Wayne Vets Club is today. Marra's occupied that building for a few years before moving their offices to the home they had built at 210 Sherman.

The business kept growing so a warehouse was purchased at 220 South Main in 1960 and was remodeled to accommodate an office and display area. But additional warehouse space was again needed, and the parking of trucks and equipment was becoming more of a problem; so the decision to expand was made and the Marra's began looking for wide open spaces.

In the spring of 1974, construction began on the present site of the business in the industrial park east of Wayne on Highway 35. April of 1975 brought a 25th Anniversary Open House in the newly-completed place of business and promises of still more growth in the future.

# Marra

## HOME IMPROVEMENT CO.

East Hwy. 35 — Phone 375-1343



"Your Future Is Our Concern Today"

# WAYNE FEDERAL

## Savings and Loan



305 Main

Wayne

375-2043



**BETTY ADDISON**

*President and Manager*

### — THE HISTORY —

Wayne Federal Savings and Loan Association was chartered on Jan. 23, 1935, and the first office was at 220 Main St.

Original directors of the association were John T. Bressler Jr., W.R. Ellis, E.E. Gailey, J.S. Horney, William Beckenhauer, C.E. Wright, C.E. Carhart and Burr R. Davis.

In December of 1961, the office was moved to its present location at 305 Main St. A new office building is under construction on the corner directly north of the present site. Plans are for the office move to take place in September of 1976.

Present directors are Betty Addison, John Addison, Charles R. Kay, Joan Lackas and Dan

Sherry. Directors Emeritus are John T. Bressler Jr., retired chairman of the board, and Leslie Ellis.

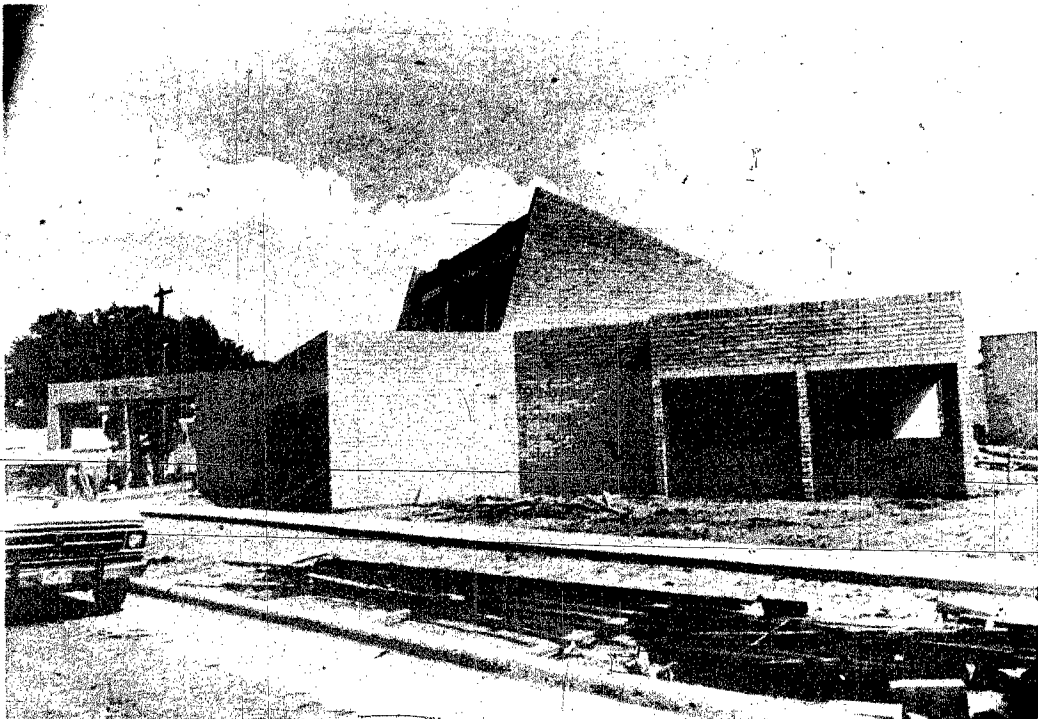
Since February of 1973, Betty Addison has served as president of the association, and is managing officer.

Past presidents are Rollie W. Ley, 1935 — June, 1956; and John T. Bressler Jr., June, 1956 — February, 1973.

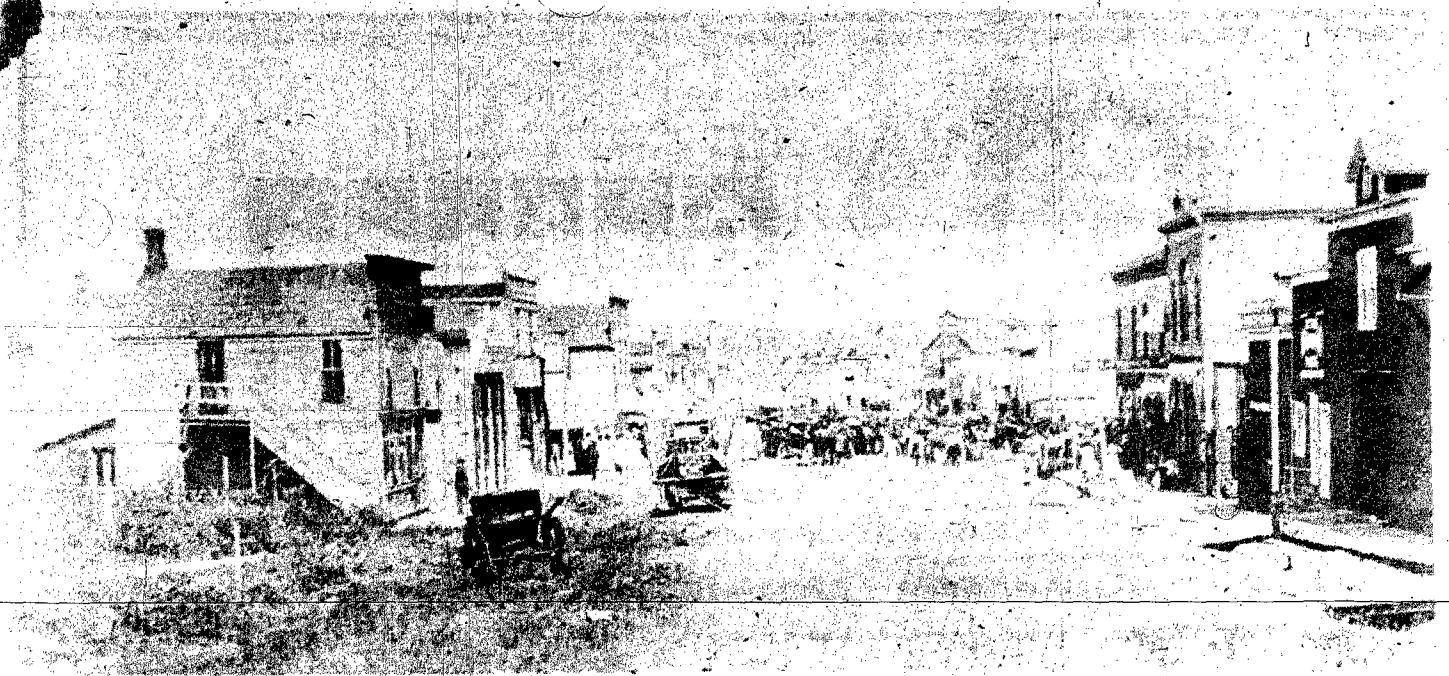
Managing officers in the past have been Leslie Ellis, March, 1936 — March, 1964; and Joan Lackas, March, 1964 — November, 1971.

Total assets of the association have grown from \$8,271.48 in December of 1935 to \$11,661,482.30 in June of 1976.

### — FUTURE LOCATION —







## Early Carroll

AN EXPANSE of prairie with homesteaders far apart extended northwest of Wayne in the early 1880's. Later, the railroad extended through the region and Carroll was established. By the early 1900's, several businesses had made the community one of the most progressive in the area. In the top photo, Carroll residents turned out for a street carnival about 1910. The center photo shows one

of Carroll's early hardware stores which featured "The Malleable Steel Range, the World's Greatest." The photo at bottom was taken during the Carroll carnival and stock show in August of 1908. The second man from left is Dr. A. Textley.



# Griess Rexall

The drug store was opened in Wayne by Ed Raymond in 1898. It was sold to Warren Shultheis in 1912. Warren sold it to a Mr. Roberts in 1914. Roberts sold to L.W. (Lester) Vath around 1925. Vath sold to Bob Chittick in 1934 and a year later Bob Kirkman purchased the store. Kirkman owned the store for 10 years and in January of 1945 Wilmer Griess purchased the store, selling to his son, Phil, on July 1, 1973.

## STORE IN 1912



*Art and Warren Shultheis*



**GRIESS REXALL — 1976**



# Technology Is Important in Farm Management Today

By TERI-BIGELOW

Technology plays an important role in modern day farming operations in Wayne County. It has allowed the Kubik-Anderson dairy farm to employ three different computers in their operation.

For Lloyd Straight, a beef cattle operator, technology has been given the burden of heavy work once done by hand to machinery.

Garry and Pat Blecke have utilized technology by centering their "farrow to finish" program around the popular Modern Cargill system.

Each of these farmers may employ technology in a different

way, but it still functions to assist them in producing the most satisfactory product at the lowest price so that economic survival is feasible.

"I can't spend all my time milking cows and feeding," explained John Anderson. "I've got to have a little thinking time for utilizing my computer printout records." Anderson is an artificial insemination technician out of the University of Nebraska who is thankful for the use of computers. Each month he receives a sheet which tells each of his cow's production to date. This sheet is sent out by the Iowa State University at Ames, Iowa.

Decisions such as how to feed the milk cows and which cows remain for milking and which ones go to market are made as a result of this information on the printout. The Kubik-Anderson operation is also engaged in a new computer program sponsored by the University of Nebraska. This system allows them to run their feeding program through a computer to have it analyzed. Since an average dairy cow lives three to four years in the modern dairy, Anderson tries to produce all his own replacement stock. The use of computers allows him to engage in computerized mating and breeding by artificial inse-

mination. This program is a part of the Midwest Breeder Coop in Wisconsin.

Anderson begins his daily routine at 4:30 a.m. He checks the pregnant cows and then sanitizes the milker. Milking the herd is his next chore. By 8:30, his family help arrives and they tend to feeding the herd. Last year Anderson's family provided the labor for one and one-half million pounds of milk. Odd chores are performed the remainder of the afternoon until about 3 p.m. and then the morning routine is repeated again. "In terms of hours per week, dairy farming is a terrible job," stated Anderson, "but if you like to be in something constructive, I can't think of anything more constructive."

There are 175 dairy cows on the Kubik-Anderson farm. Forty cows are owned by Don Kubik and sixty by John Anderson, while the remaining 75 are correspondingly split. When they began operation in 1972, the Kubiks owned sixty and the Andersons owned forty head. Kubik maintains the facilities for the sake of Anderson's work with his cattle. Because of this arrangement, Anderson has been able to expand his herd without investing heavily in facilities. To beat the cost of the price squeeze, Anderson is trying to increase output without increasing expenses. This explains why he is trying to stay in business by increasing in size. Anderson is very proud of the fact that in recent months he has scored low in bacteria count and has had a creditable sediment count. His milk is produc-

ed for the Grade A market.

Sixteen years ago dairy cows went out to pasture. Now they stay in the yard and are fed storefeed the year around. For the last ten years, machine milking has taken over and bulk coolers hold the chilled milk until it is shipped to market. Anderson claims that the biggest change in dairy farming however, is the continual enlargement of the herd.

**Beef Operation Also Changed**

Over the last six years, Lloyd Straight has experienced this same rapid growth in his herd of beef cattle. Perhaps this is why he no longer feeds by hand with a scoop shovel. His set-up includes a loader for the silage, augers to move the grain and rollers to roll the grain. A mixer wagon then spews the grain into drive-along bunks located outside of the yard. Mixer wagons guarantee that each animal has a chance to consume the same balance of ingredients. The old type wagon allowed the cattle the choice of either all roughage or all grain. Besides alleviating heavy work, technology also has introduced new additives which improve feed efficiency.

Straight has been in operation for eleven years. His operation includes farming five hundred acres and selling from 1,400 to 1,500 Hereford cattle a year. When he first began he only fed from 100 to 150 head a year. Each week a new load of Herefords are shipped to his farm from a cattle buyer in Hartington. The new herd averages between 650 and 700 pounds each

(Continued on following page)



LLOYD STRAIGHT has experienced rapid growth in his beef herd (above) in the past six years, making necessary the application of modern farm technology in feeding. Garry and Pat Blecke use a Cargill system in their farrow to finish a hog program (left). They finish from 1,000 to 1,200

# Technology Important

(Farm continued)  
at purchase time. After 120 to 150 days on full feed, the weight increases to 1,050-1,100 pounds. They are then sorted and the fleshy cattle are shipped to Iowa Beef Processors by local truckers.

A unique set-up on the Straight farm allows one or two people to move an entire lot of cattle with very little commotion. Straight has a permanent cement loading chute which will not buckle under pressure or deteriorate like the wood chute.

The market offers \$40 per hundred weight whereas Lloyd Straight is hoping for \$45-50 per hundred. That is one reason why the beef cattle business is "not as great as everybody thinks it is," states Straight.

### Cargill System

The modern Cargill system is an integral part of the Blecke's "farrow to finish" hog program. Under this system, the pigs are raised and finished on concrete as opposed to a dirt yard. The pigs are kept in an open-front,

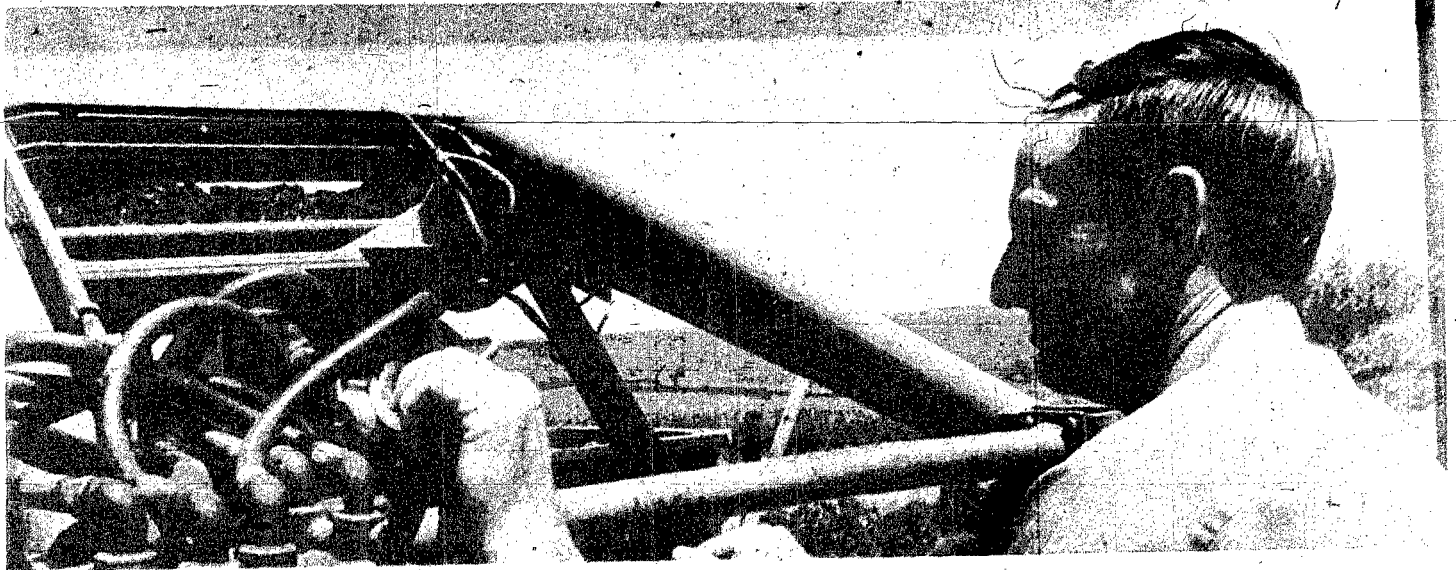
low-roofed building with doors on the rear side for ventilation. During the winter months, bedding and body heat keep the pigs warm. The Blecke's feel this is a healthier situation than artificial heat because the pigs need only to adjust to normal temperatures. Each sow is kept in a separate hut when farrowing. A mister keeps the sows cool during the hot summer days. With the push of a flapper on the modern circulating water system which the sows learn quickly, they always have access to fresh water. After farrowing, the baby pigs are kept dry with bedding and are kept warm by a catalytic heater.

Garry and Pat Blecke have a

husband-wife partnership. This began four years ago. During the winter months Garry is in charge of the care and feeding. However, he farms 400 acres during the summer, so his wife then takes over the farrowing operation. She is also the bookkeeper. Pat feels that women are accustomed to handling babies, so why not baby pigs. Once a day the herd is fed by wheelbarrow. The diet of the pig consists of shell corn and a cube which balances the ration. Simultaneously, the herd is checked and farrowing mothers are given special attention. All young pigs get their tails docked, their needle teeth clipped and are given an iron shot. The

Blecke's limit traffic entering their farrowing area or if necessary, for someone to enter, their shoes are disinfected, because the pig is quite susceptible to disease.

"If I had a choice, I would do it the old way," remarked Blecke, "but I need volume to survive." Years ago a sixty-hog pen was a large operation and farrowing took place only twice a year in the corner of a grove or lot. Today Blecke finishes from 1,000 to 1,200 pigs per year. He sells grade and yield so he can get a good premium on his high quality hogs. His system is somewhat similar to older operations in one respect—each pig does get individual care.



JOHN ANDERSON performs maintenance duties on some of the equipment used in the Anderson-Kubik dairy farm. Proper care of equipment is an important part of the modern farming operation.

## HISTORY

William A. Koeber, Doctor of Optometry, opened his private practice in Wayne in December of 1948 after graduating from Northern Illinois College of Optometry in Chicago.

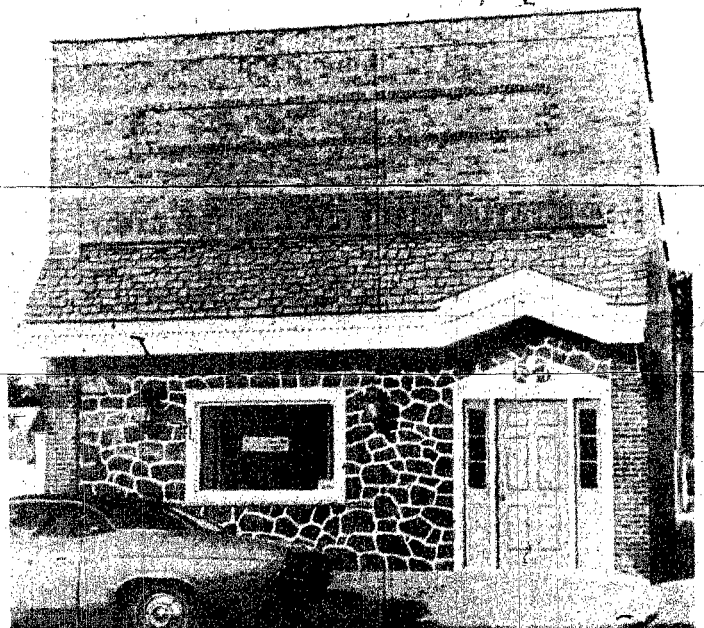
Dr. Koeber was located at 111 West 2nd which is now the State National Farm Management Building. He moved to his present location at 313 Main in August 1969.

Dr. Koeber has been a past president of the Nebraska Optometry Association and is looking forward to his son Don joining him in the optometrist business after completion of optometry college in 1978.



**WILLIAM A.  
KOEBER, O.D.**

**OPTOMETRIST**



# Winside Still Young When Settler Arrived in 1886

In 1970, Otto Ulrich of Winside was asked to write an article for The Wayne Herald telling his first impressions of Wayne County as he arrived here in 1886. Mr. Ulrich has since died, however, his widow, Lena, still resides at Winside.

Here is Ulrich's account of those first formative years:

We arrived here on March 12, 1886 by railroad from Norfolk where our oldest brother, Henry, had preceded us several weeks. The town of Winside had not much more than been started at that time.

Having arrived at Norfolk, we loaded ourselves into a three-seated spring wagon and headed northeast across the county for the home of Frank Puls. Our father, Peter Ulrich Sr., had exchanged letters with Puls prior to our decision to come to Nebraska. We arrived at the Puls home in the afternoon and had coffee before we continued on our journey.

It is well to note here that there were no laid-out state or county roads. Everyone headed across lots in the direction he wanted to go.

We landed here after dark, huddled in for the night, and slept until morning.

We found a shack of a house, 12-feet wide and 16-feet long, with a lean-to on the north side of equal dimensions. Since there were no operating lumber yards in the small towns, our father bought lumber from our home in Wisconsin and had it shipped here for a house and a barn. These two buildings were erected the following summer.

On arrival here we found numerous neighbors; south one mile was Fred Muhmeier Sr., and west were the Conrad Schroeder and Chris Pieper families. The Pitenger family included three sons and two daughters. North of us was the Carl Bronzynski family. Just south was William Trotter.

By the number of neighbors mentioned, it might be expected that much of the prairie soil would have been broken. However, most of the people here came from European countries where they had no possessions at all. The Pitengers, however, had been here some years and had been cowboying and breaking broncos. They later moved to the H.B. Miller farm one and a half miles east of Winside.

Many of the new settlers did not have finances to buy machinery or horses to do the required labor, so they would get together with one another so they could do some team work. Little by little, the productive Wayne County soil made it possible to increase their holdings.

Our immediate group organized a church group (Immanuel Reformed Church in the United States) about two months after our arrival in Nebraska. Services were first conducted in the Nerhside School District No. 16, and later in our home.

Soon after, the Lutherans around Winside organized a congregation. Other groups soon followed suit. The Methodists in Winside, some southeast of Winside and Hoskins had several churches.

Several Welch persons located to the northwest of us. I have no date as to when they came, but it was very soon after 1886. They had a Congregational and a Presbyterian Church in which to hold their Sunday meetings.

In the early days there were

some coyotes, bushy tail ground squirrels, striped squirrels, rats and mice in this part of Wayne County. There were no timber squirrels, no crows, and no raccoons or possums. Snakes, including rattle snakes, green snakes, bull snakes, and garter snakes were common and lizards were numerous. Amphibious creatures such as frogs, crabs, mud turtles, muskrats, mink and weasels were also very common.

There were prairie chickens, and in the early morning one could see them sitting around in the grassland.

The quail or bob white was common. There were quite a few bob-o-links in areas of grassland. They were black birds with a white stripe on the fore part of the wing. However, like the prairie chicken they did not like to nest near settlements so they moved farther west.

There were very few flocks of crane which flew very high in the air, and had it not been for the noise they made, they would have hardly been noticed. Wild flocks of geese always were plentiful in both spring and fall, but there were few wild duck. There was no deer, but my brother, Ed, and I used to ramp around in the pasture our folks leased, comprising all of section 36 in Garfield precinct where we found antlers that had been shed by the deer.

During our first years in Nebraska, much government land had been taken up and an abundant supply of grass grew there that one could cut for hay. That did not last long, as each year more settlers came in from the east who took claims or bought the land.

Prairie fires frequently turned up when the grass got dry in the fall.

It is also noteworthy to mention that the railroad, C.M. and Omaha, was built at the time we arrived here. Its course was from Sioux City to Norfolk. For many years, two passenger trains covered the route, one from Sioux City to Norfolk, arriving shortly before noon and returning at two o'clock to Sioux City. Another one left Norfolk in the morning and returned about 7 o'clock in the evening. There were also two freight trains which covered the route daily.

At this time, Sioux City was not much of a market place but was growing. Most of the stock and grain was shipped to Omaha and the better finished cattle were shipped to Chicago. This Norfolk-Sioux City railroad joined another road that came up from Omaha to Emerson. It also ran some trains on to Sioux City.

At this point, I would like to point to the fact that in the low places were tall grasses, mostly called sloughs, where the grass grew six to nine feet high. The stems were very hard and tough, and many of the first settlers cut and tied it into long buggies to be used to make roofs for buildings.

The sloughs that produced this tall grass were cut through by some settlers to make an open ditch where the water would drain out and make it possible to cut the grass before it would joint. This also made it possible to cut the grass several times in one summer. It was then used for hay.

This ditching process was done by two strings of oxen, four or five yokes in each string. There was a heavy beam or evener and one string of oxen on

each end, while the middle of the beam had the ditching plow fastened which made a ditch about two feet deep and two feet wide. The two strings of oxen, however, pulled alternately. One side pulled ahead as the other side stood still. The slough, being very soft, caused the oxen to sink into the mud up to their bellies and back of the plow, and the water would be ditch full and running over.

This went on for a few years until the production of alfalfa took place.

I remember when in about 1895 the government enumerator came here to ask about our yield of alfalfa. We told him five tons per acre for the year. He looked at us as though we were stretching it mighty strong, but we assured him that it was a fact. Prior to this time we, as well as others, had grown millet for hay needed for cattle.

In the first years in Nebraska, the older brothers decided to keep cattle. One of the bunches were fed shelled corn for their grain. This was shelled by a little hand sheller. About 18 head of cattle were fed and sold here for \$3 per hundred weight.

Between 1910 and 1920, many of our best and most-able citizens were drafted into the U.S. Army. This placed agriculture into a position where hired labor was not available. Transportation of building material and livestock became difficult. This caused other methods to be resorted to, mainly that of trucks, which at that time had

not been invented but were thought of very soon.

And then the building and making of highways were presenting another problem. Many complaints were heard from shippers whose stock was thrown around in transit, causing them to be sick when they reached market. This condition resulted in the inventing of large transportation trucks that could carry a large carload of livestock.

Automobiles were gradually being bought and used by the general public, and the building of roads took on a major picture.

At this time, it is also appropriate to mention the advent of the telephone. We received the telephone in the fall of 1900, the building of which was promoted by businessmen of Winside, including McCluskey and Jim Needham and Dr. Cherry.

Some of the older people thought that we were rather extravagant spending so much money for something we got no use of. Some of our neighbors several miles north of us had a phone line several years earlier.

In regard to market reports, we only got the Daily Livestock Journal and that was always one or two days late. Another two days were required until the stock could be gotten to the local loading chute and to the terminal market. All kinds of time for the price to drop.

I remember the times I had to get on a saddle horse and spend nearly a day getting help order-

ed for the hauling of a carload of hogs to town. To be able to get them loaded to ship, the cattle were driven to town.

Another thing that took place around the 1900's was the placing of the rural mail route. These things all brought the active farmers and stock raisers closer to their city relatives.

From 1921 to the present a great change has taken place in transportation. The truck has taken over most all of the business of hauling, regardless of whether the haul is long or short.

In Nebraska's earlier years, snow storms were quite common. When a bad one hit, it was usually two to four days before it was over. The storm of January, 1888, started with a mild breeze from the southwest in the morning. About 10 a.m., the wind suddenly switched to the northwest, turning bitter cold. The snow as fine as flour would cover one with ice and snow in just a little while. A pump on a well just one rod from our house could hardly be seen.

At this time I will go back to our debut in Nebraska, demonstrating that in pioneer days, all things are not rosey.

For instance, the snow storm just mentioned had blocked the cuts along the railroad which passed our house one-half mile south.

Another incident was in the spring of about 1899 when we had a snowstorm on the 23rd of March which started with a (Continued on following page)



# Settler Reminiscences

(Ulrich continued)

thunderstorm in the early morning. The snow was quite wet and while we were all sitting in the dining room of our house, the door was opened and our neighbor, Fred Muehlmeier, stepped in with only few clothes on and bare headed with about two inches of snow and ice on his head. He reported that lightning had struck his house. It had also struck his wife, and he had moved her and several children out into the barn. We supplied him with immediate clothes. Brother August went to the Conrad Schroeder home and received some clothes for the small children and brother Henry got on a horse and went to Winside and ordered Dr. Cherry. The railroad company had fenced their right-of-way so that one could not pass over only on foot for two miles, therefore the body of Mrs. Muehlmeier was taken to the Jim Elliot home where she died about a day later. She was the first person buried in the Immanuel Church cemetery.

Another incident happened just northwest of Winside. A crew was threshing there and a team of horses started to run away. The man of the place tried to stop them and was run over and killed.

Some years later, the John Prince family was putting up

hay north of the place where he then lived. After dinner, one boy went to rake hay. He rode one of the horses out, and soon after Mr. Prince and the other boys went out to stack. Just as they got out of the house, one of the horses the first boy had taken out came tearing in, dragging the boy who had his foot caught in the harness. The boy was dead.

A man by the name of Havenner was in the process of showing how he got stabbed in the side when a three-year old colt that was tied to a wagon turned, apparently to kick another horse, but hit this man in the stomach. Dr. Cherry was called and said that inflammation had set in. This man also died in another day's time.

In about 1911, Edward Ulrich had built up his place in the northeast corner of section 36, Garfield Precinct. It was a very dry year and no rain had fallen until about the first of July. One

night a terrific thunderstorm appeared and lightning hit his barn and burned it down. This barn contained his horses and hogs, and some chickens, feed, grain and machinery. All went, except one little colt that was close to its mother. When Ed knocked the door open, the mare and colt ran out. Most of the casualties caused by the fire

were a total loss except for the barn itself which was insured.

Regarding the terrific rain, it took all the fences in the bottom out on both sides of the road on the east side where Tom Prince lived. It was quite a job to get them all replaced again.

From here I will go back to some of the years in 1800. In 1894, we had very dry and hot weather which dried up the tassels in early August when pollination should take place. In this dry weather, the corn crop was nearly nil.

In 1895, we received a fair crop, but in 1896 we were blessed with a bumper corn crop. During October, we had a heavy sleet which clung to the stalks. When the sun shone on it, the ice broke, dropping the corn stalks and all to the ground. This made quite a mess to pick up in the spring as everything had to be gathered by hand. Much of it was frozen in and had to be picked loose with a pickax. Some of our neighbors hauled such corn to town and received the magnificent sum of eight cents per bushel.

The P.V. Elevator Company had built about 13 corn cribs.

These cribs were standing east and west, and there was a steady stream of wagons loaded with corn going to town all day long. A year or two later, these cribs were shelled out and the corn mostly went through the P.V. Elevator. This shelling was performed by men that had a sheller driven by horses on a horse power.

In those days, Winside had no schoolhouse. I remember a boy by the name of Floyd McDerby coming to our school, District No. 16, also known as the North-side School. This schoolhouse stood in District 16 till the year 1928 when we built a new one. Later, in 1957, the redistricting fever took place and the goodly new schools such as district 60, 21 and 16 were taken to town.

Other things worthy of taking notice are that in early days all roads were for the most part

later by a gas engine, and at last by electric motor.

In 1906 when the first one was drilled, we had waterworks placed. This required a cistern which is 60 rods uphill and the pipes for conducting the water are one-inch galvanized. We bought these from Ed Cullen who was in the implement business in Winside. At that time, the price was three cents per lineal foot.

Another thing that should be

## Early Settler Recalls 1896 as Year of Bumper Corn Crop

ungraded dirt roads. Streets in the town were most all composed of dirt until about 1918 when many towns started to pave their streets and sidewalks.

Other improvements also took place. Wells, for instance, had only boards for lining. These soon decayed and spoiled the well. In 1906, we had a well bored by Jim Worthem and Jim Roland into which we had tiles placed. This well served our needs for about 57 years. It was pumped by a windmill first;

mentioned is that when one drove across the country with horse and buggy years ago, all farmsteads were conspicuous for their poor houses, barns, fences, etc. Seldom were these places well repaired and painted. The opposite is now the case.

This all speaks well for the productivity of our Wayne County, Ne. soil. Also, electric light, heat, refrigeration and power are to be mentioned as regular blessings.

# United Methodist Congregation Holds First Service at LaPorte

The story of Wayne's First United Methodist Church begins with the very early history of the town. Prior to the settling of Wayne, services were held at LaPorte, the first town in Wayne County.

These services were held in the courthouse by the pastor of the Wisner church. Early records show that Rev. J.H. Skinner, pastor at Wisner, preached every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. with Sunday school at 1 p.m.

The coming of the railroad to the county forced the congregation to move from the old town site to Wayne. Methodists opened services in Wayne in the fall of 1881 with the Rev. W.H. Carter coming from Wisner. A class was organized, including Mr. and Mrs. Burr Cunningham, Mr. and Mrs. John Bennett and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Chance.

In September of 1882, the Rev.

Dugald C. Winship was appointed to the Wayne-Wakefield charge. He came with his wife and three children to accept the appointment for a promised \$500 plus \$80 missionary money. Services were held at Wayne Sunday afternoons, first in the Lutheran Church and later in the Baptist Church.

Services were shifted to the courthouse in 1884 under the ministry of the Rev. H.G. Pittenger, who was the first resident pastor of the Wayne church. Hymnists and an organ were purchased for use in worship.

However, a fire swept through the courthouse in July of that year. Members of the congregation then purchased the lot at the edge of town, where the present church stands. Fund raising began for the first building.

The new church was a frame building constructed by volun-

teer labor.

The year following, ladies of the church met to organize what they called The Willing Workers Society. The name was later changed to Benevolent Workers and then to The Ladies Aid.

The first parsonage was built in 1886 during the ministry of the Rev. William Gorst. The site was the home at 614 Pearl St., described by Mrs. Gorst as "northwesterly on the prairies edge." Because it was too far from the church and town, the parsonage was sold in 1890 and a house south of the church was purchased.

Rapid growth in membership between 1892 and 1900 brought the demand for a new church during the ministry of the Rev. H. Hirst Millard.

The building program for a new church got underway under the leadership of the Rev. Thom-

as Bithell, who came to Wayne in 1897. The decision to build a new church was made in August of 1900 and the present brick structure was completed in 1901 under the pastorate of Rev. Bithell at a cost of \$17,000.

A pipe organ was purchased and presented to the church in 1903, a gift of Mrs. J.H. Pingrey. When the organ was sold the proceeds were used to help purchase the present organ, which was installed in 1939.

Changes were made in the parsonage in 1905. The home which had been purchased was moved and the present parsonage was erected. The contract was left to Foster and Young for \$3367. Of this amount, \$2900 had been subscribed.

The next project undertaken was the finishing of the church basement, which was started in 1910. Electricity had been placed in the church between 1908 and 1910.

In 1917 the street in front of the church was still dirt and the board voted to have it sprinkled to keep down the dust at a cost of \$1 per month. The street was paved in 1920.

The church underwent some changes in 1930 when the three branches of Methodism united. Further changes were made when the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church united in December of 1968.

In 1951, a three-year remodeling program was decided upon. The one for 1952 included the building of the parlor, the new Fellowship Hall, the kitchen and the stage. Work progressed so rapidly that steps one and two were completed, paid for and dedicated in the fall of 1952 with Bishop H. Bascom Watts as the feature speaker.

The 1953 project included re-wiring of the old building, re-painting, and converting the basement into class rooms.

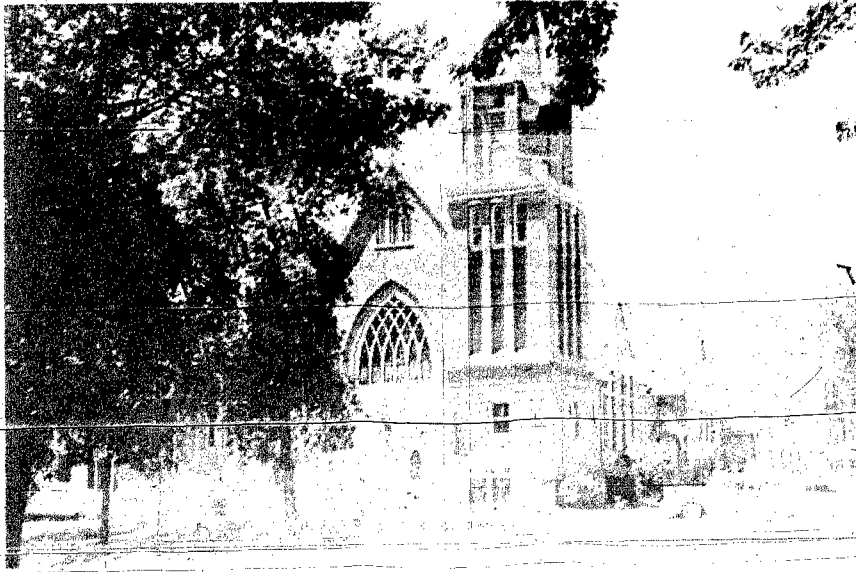
In 1955, the money for remodeling the front of the church

was raised. This was completed in 1956. The total valuation of the three-year program was \$85,000. Also in 1955, the loud speaker system was installed, and in 1956 the organ was rebuilt and modernized.

Pastors who have served the United Methodist Church since Rev. Bithell are C.N. Dawson, 1902-04; Thomas J. Wright, 1904-06; E.C. Horn, 1906-07; Charles F. Sharp, 1907-09; J.L. Kirkpatrick, 1909-10; Wm. Gorst, 1910-13; P.R. Grotteltry, 1913-13;

J.C.L. Myers, 1913-14; A.S. Buell, 1914-17; David W. McGregor, 1917-19; William Kilburn, 1919-22; John Grant Shick, 1922-25; L.F. Townsend, 1925-27; W. W. Whitman, 1927-31; Harold C. Caspey, 1931-34; Fay Charles Mills, 1934-36; Carl Bader, 1936-40; Victor West, 1940-48; E.E. Golay, 1948-50; Albert B. Gray, 1950-57; Wm. C. Simmer, 1957-64; Cecil Bliss, 1964-70; Frank Kirtley, 1970-74, and the Rev. Kenneth Edmonds, who came in 1974 and still serves as pastor.

At the present time there are 625 members of the congregation.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



REV. KENNETH EDMONDS

# Thirteen Sign Charter Roll for St. Paul's Lutheran Church

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church began in 1880, 12 years after the first homestead in Wayne County, 13 years after the first furrow had been drawn over the land, and one year before the coming of the railroad.

The county seat was still at LaPorte, the city of Wayne was just getting started. There were no schools and no town hall in the settlement.

The Rev. G.H. Schnur Sr., pastor at Ponca, visited Logan Valley in the spring of 1880. On April 5, 1880, he preached the first Lutheran sermon in the county at LaPorte. Services were held at intervals for a year and a half at Kluever's schoolhouse, Stringers and Kluevers residences and at LaPorte.

In the fall of 1881, a group met at LaPorte courthouse to organize a congregation. The location of the church, however, was to be Wayne. Thirteen members signed the charter roll.

Rev. G.H. Schnur was called as pastor. The members could only offer \$100 to his support, consequently, the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church granted \$300 in financial aid for the first year. The pastor loaned \$200 back to the congregation to assist with the building of their first chapel, which was completed in January of 1882.

In addition to church worship services, the chapel was rented to the school board at \$5 per week for school purposes. Within two years a new church was built on the present location.

The building boasted a new tower and small room, and cost \$2300.

Several years after St. Paul's was organized, a problem of language arose. Those not willing to give up the German language withdrew and formed the sister congregation, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.

When discussion started in 1946 toward the remodeling of the church building, then 62 years old, plans were instigated for building a new church instead. In 1954 the cornerstone was laid. The old church was sold to the Evangelical Free Church in Ponca in February of 1955, and moved a month later.

The new \$200,000 church was

dedicated on May 8, 1955.

The property for a parsonage was purchased in 1953, and in 1958, the remaining area between the church and the parsonage was purchased. The congregation now owns the entire frontage on Pearl St., from Fourth to Fifth Sts.

The church building has complete facilities for worship, education, recreation and fellowship. The Reuter pipe organ was designed especially for the church and the stained glass in

the windows was imported from France and Germany. The Maas bells make a positive contribution.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church has a membership of about 500 confirmed members. Formerly a member of the ULCA, it is now a member of its successor Synod, the Lutheran Church in America.

Pastors who have served St. Paul's are: Rev. G.H. Schnur, 1881-85; Rev. M.L. Melick, 1886-92; Rev. M.L. Kunkelman, 1893-

96; Rev. W.C. Eckhart, 1896-97; Rev. C.J. Ringer, 1899-1912; Rev. Floyd Blessing, 1913-15; Rev. J.H. Fetterolf, 1916-24; Rev. C.L. Stazer, 1924-27; Rev. C. Krueger, 1927-28; Rev. N.C. Heidenreich, 1928-39; Rev. G. Gieschen, 1940-42; Rev. J.C. Schuidt, 1843-48; Rev. J.H. Shiery, 1948-52; Rev. Wilbur Volker, 1953-56; Rev. Robert Shirck, 1957-68, and the Rev. Doniver Peterson, who came in 1969 and still serves as the church's pastor.



REV. DONIVER PETERSON



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



RED CARR

## RED CARR IMPLEMENT

— HISTORY —

Red Carr and his wife, Norma, started in the implement business in 1951. They were located north of Allen on Highway 20 and were the area Case dealer. In 1961 New Holland was added to their line.

In 1966 they purchased the Case dealership in Wayne from Lyle Cleveland. In 1970 they moved their complete operation from Allen to their present location. Their farm lines now consist of Case — New Holland — Owatonna and Blair Manufacturing.



1969



## Baptists Organized 1881

Early in the winter of 1881, the Rev. J.F. Heilner, supported by his wife and a few staunch friends, felt the need of building a Baptist Church in the new town of Wayne.

On Dec. 17, 1881, a meeting of organization was called and the Missionary Baptist Church was started with the following offices: R.J. Morgan and W.B. Jordan, deacons; the Rev. J.F. Heilner, W.B. Jordan and R.J. Morgan, trustees; M.N. Conover, church clerk, and Anna M. Heilner, church treasurer.

According to church records,

"after reading of minutes of the meeting and adopting the same, they were ordered placed upon record in the office of the County Clerk of Wayne County and State of Nebraska."

It was in March of 1894 that the church resolved unanimously to seek and expand its ministry into the rural area. The minutes read: "Believing it to be for the best interest of a part of our membership as well as their convenience and the better development of gospel work, be it resolved that this church establish a branch in the vicinity of School District No. 66 to transact such business as may be needful to the best interest of the church and the spread of the gospel of Christ."

The following resolutions were made:

—Five members constitute a quorum;

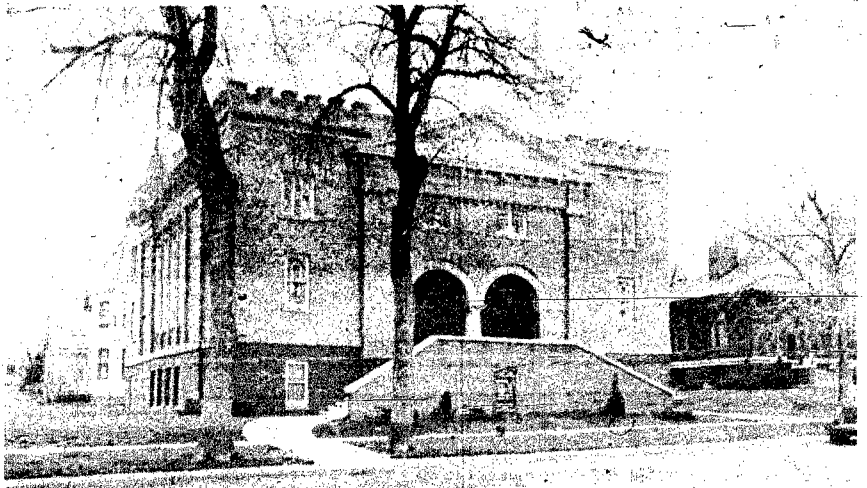
—To receive into the fellowship of this church such persons as give evidence of being saved;

—And to dismiss by letter such members as are in full fellowship to churches of like faith and order;

—To observe the ordinances in harmony with the parent church and the gospel of Christ;

—To use their efforts individually and collectively for the maintenance of church services, encouragement of God's children and the salvation of souls;

—That this branch be permitted



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



REV. VERNL MATTSON

to elect a moderator, one clerk and treasurer for transaction of needed business;

—That the clerk make report to the clerk of the parent church of such business as may be related to it once each quarter;

—That the branch shall work in harmony with the parent church, each pledging their mutual support, sympathy and prayers.

A motion was made that the above resolutions be granted and in full force from the date of March 21, 1894. The motion carried.

In January of 1909, a recom-

mendation was made by the advisory board of the church that the church take hold of the work of building a new church building.

In a report of the committee on the building in April 1909, the minutes read: "After corresponding with five new church buildings and receiving replies, together with sketches and cuts of most of them, we beg to recommend that the style of building be the Grecian or Temple style, that the material be Hydrolic pressed brick, with full basement under entire structure."

The church was constructed and worship services are still held there each Sunday.

The Wayne First Baptist Church and the Obert First Baptist Church now work together in a parish system with the Rev. Vernl E. Mattson, who resides in Wayne.

The churches are within the Omahaland Association of the Nebraska Baptist State Convention and are one of 6,000 American Baptist Churches in the United States.

The Wayne church has 69 members and the Obert church has 54 worshippers.

# Redeemer Services Held in 1889

Redeemer Lutheran Church has had a history of steady growth, not only in building, but in membership as well.

The first meeting for the purpose of organizing Redeemer Lutheran Church was held in January of 1889 in the August Piepenstock Store at Wayne.

Families represented at this meeting were Julius Salzwedel, Christoph Birtenmeyer, John Doernbergerm, Frank Obst, Wm. Soenekn, G.H. Goll, August Piepenstock, William Kugler, Magdalena Danielson, Albert Glasemaphl, Margaretha Lerner, William Damme, Fred Volpp, H. Mammen, William Piepenstock, Rudolph Altenfeld, Dr. Conrad Kettner, Karl Wrobel and Rudolph Heffe.

Organization took place on April 21, 1889. Thirty-three charter members accepted the constitution and called Pastor J.F. Mueller to serve them. The small congregation purchased a temporary meeting place at 416 W. First St. for their worship services.

Within 10 years the growing congregation made plans to construct a new church at 419 W. First St. The site was purchased for \$225. The cornerstone was laid on Oct. 15, 1899, and the

building was dedicated Jan. 15, 1900.

Henry Koch, a member of the congregation, was the contractor for the new church. The entire cost of the church was \$2,582.00.

The parsonage was erected east of the church in 1902. Remodeled and refurnished when needed, the two buildings witnessed the growth of Redeemer Church for more than 40 years.

In 1906, a 1,500-pound bell costing \$337.72 was installed, which still calls Redeemer worshippers. The inscription on the bell, written in German, reads: "May I introduce myself to you; My name is Concordia. I call men to the house of prayer."

In 1939 an electric organ was installed. The Ladies Aid sponsored a drive to raise the funds to pay for the organ, which was formally dedicated at the 50th anniversary celebration on April 16, 1939.

By 1945, a larger church building was needed and the congregation was incorporated to build as Redeemer Lutheran Church. On Jan. 7, 1945, a gift of a new church site at Fifth and Lincoln Sts. was offered to the congregation by Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Meyer.

The bell was placed in the tower of the present church. The parsonage was located at 421 Lincoln St.

As part of the church's 75th anniversary celebration, the parish unit was dedicated in 1964 and a new parsonage was completed. With the burning of the mortgage of the new parsonage in 1966, the congregation was debt free in terms of the building program.

Through the years, the church organ, chimes, choir robes, hymnals, chancel furniture, stained glass windows, kitchens, and heating and cooling systems have been updated and added whenever needed.

In 1961 a wood carving of Christ was placed on the altar. A metal cross shines from the south wing of the church. A memorial sanctuary light was installed in 1967.

The Rev. and Mrs. S.K.

deFreese returned from a tour of the Holy Land in 1971, bringing with them a lamp from the Church of the Nativity. The lamp is installed in the sanctuary.

Redeemer Church has seen four young people go into full-time ministry. Sister Sophie Damme, deaconess, now serves on the Parish Board. Pastor Harlan Heier, ordained in 1955, and Pastor Robert Sieckman, ordained in 1961, now serve parishes in York and Denver. In 1967, the Rev. William Koerber, who now serves a parish in Gretna, was ordained. Ronald Seymour, another member of the congregation, is enrolled in seminary in Chicago.

Many traditions have developed as Redeemer Church has grown. The first Vacation Bible school was in 1951. The schedule of services has not changed since 1953 when two Sunday worship services were begun.

The Christmas Eve family service began in 1958, and the Luther League's sunrise pageant is held each Easter.

Church services were first broadcast over radio KTCH on

Easter Sunday, 1968, and have continued to be aired each week since.

Dedication of the church's new memorial pipe organ was held in December of 1975. When the need for a new organ to replace the nearly 30-year-old electric organ became apparent, a committee was appointed to study and make recommendation for a new pipe organ.

Installation of the organ was completed in August of 1975. With the new organ there were a number of improvements made in the building and sanctuary. A new wood ceiling replaced a temporary ceiling of composition and new carpeting was placed in the sanctuary, which also received a new coat of paint.

The organ was purchased from the Schlicker Organ Co. of Buffalo, N.Y. and was custom designed for the church. The design is similar to that used in pipe organs since the 15th century.

Pastors who have served Redeemer Lutheran Church are: J.F. Mueller, 1889-90; Emil Ashbrand, 1890-96; A. Graber, 1896-

1901; J.H. Karpenstein, 1901-12; R. Moehring, 1912-19; H.A. Teckhaus, 1919-36; W.F. Most, 1936-42 and S.K. deFreese, 1942 to the present.

At the present time, the church membership includes 1,062 baptized souls and 372 families



REV. S.K. deFREESE

Redeemer  
Church  
Dedicates  
New  
Pipe Organ



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH



Mayor Decker Looks Ahead

# Future Is Bright for Wayne

By BETTY HEPBURN

The City of Wayne, along with cities and towns across the country, is celebrating the Bicentennial of the nation's founding this year.

Wayne mayor Freeman Decker has a comprehensive view of the businesses, services and industries of the city which he describes with pride in the present and a look to the future.

The new 26-room Providence Medical Center, dedicated in 1975, fills a need for northeast Nebraska as well as for Wayne, and will serve to attract more doctors to the area. The \$24,000 ambulance is also a contribution, since there are only two or three in all northeast Nebraska.

With the recent building addition, the Wayne Care Centre has 103 beds and special facilities for physical therapy.

Wayne is headquarters for Developmental Disabilities serving children and adults with mental retardation and other mental disabilities. The children's center is located on the Wayne State College campus, while the adult workshop to train for vocational skills and independent living is located downtown.

The Family Health Service does cancer screening, lead screening for pre-schoolers, and counseling for planned parenthood, unwanted pregnancies and venereal disease. A visiting nurse service for the area is just being organized.

For the city's elderly residents, Villa Wayne provides low income housing and offers recreational and instructional programs. The Senior Citizens Center, under the direction of Mrs. Eldon Bull, provides an active program.

Besides the ever-popular Bressler Park, young and old alike can enjoy leisure activities at Wayne's swimming pool, tennis courts, bowling alley and baseball park.

The city also boasts about its recreation program directed by Hank Overin, in addition to a summer recreation program.

The Lions Club is equipping a park next to the airport for all-night camping and the Henry Victor Park, dedicated in 1975, has restroom facilities for overnight camping also.

Innovative and well-equipped schools serve the community

well. The new West Elementary School was constructed in 1959 and a new high school building opened its doors in 1967. At that time the old high school building became the home of the first middle school in the state, consolidating grades five through eight in one building.

The "middle school" concept emphasizes individualized curriculum and team teaching. Grades five and six spend the mornings with the homeroom teacher and afternoons with teachers in specialized areas. Special facilities and certified teachers provide art, orchestra, chorus,

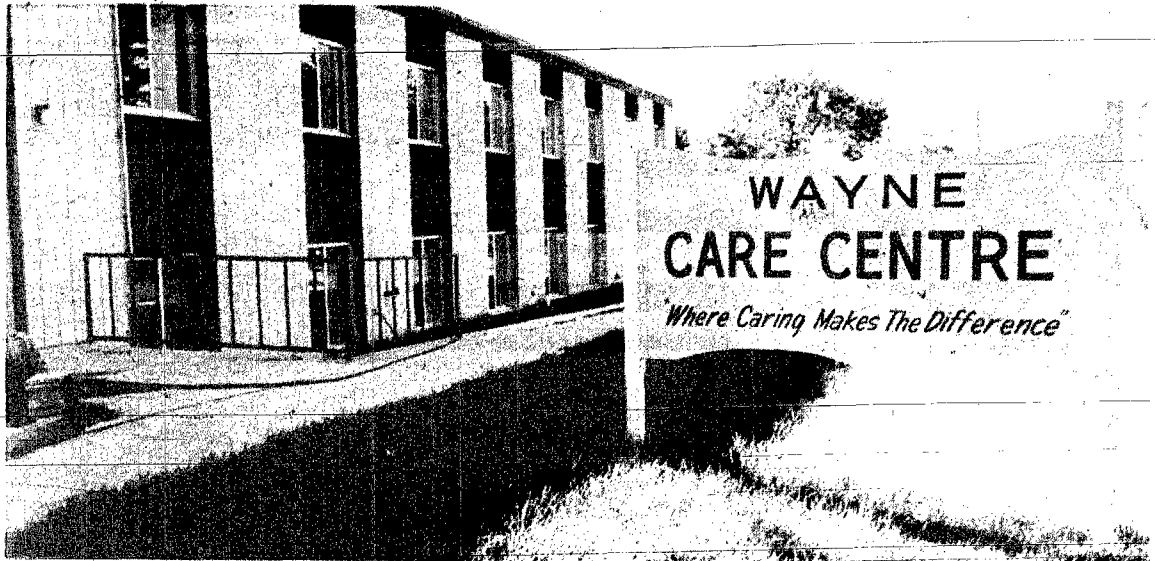
band, shop, typing and home-making for grades five through eight.

The high school has creative arts and drama facilities, including a modern sound system. Vocational instruction includes auto mechanics, metals, power mechanics, woodworking, building construction and masonry. There is also comprehensive instruction in office practice skills applicable to jobs in the area.

There has been a developmental program for the learning disabled in the elementary (Continued on following page)



MAYOR FREEMAN DECKER



THE WAYNE Care Centre serves the community and the area with complete facilities, including physical therapy,

for its residents. In recent years, a new building addition was completed and the facility now holds over 100 beds.

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In 1931 At

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This is no Special Sale—Just Regular Prices

2 blade Keen Kutter punch Pocket Knife, formerly \$1.50. **\$1.00**  
Now  
2 blade Pocket Knife, formerly \$1, now **59c**  
Inside door lock sets, formerly \$1, now **65c**  
8 quart Lard press, formerly \$5.75, now **\$3.50**  
Chi-Namel Varnish, formerly \$1.55 a quart — **\$1.10**  
Now  
5 Gal. Cream can, formerly \$3.75, now **\$2.45**  
Galvanized Wash Boiler, formerly \$2, now **\$1.35**  
Standard large Rural Mail Box—formerly \$2.75 — **\$3.25**  
Now  
No. 5 Meat Cutter, formerly \$3.75, now **\$2.50**  
Full Enamel Ivory and Green Range, formerly \$97.85, now **\$82.50**  
DeLux General Electric vacuum cleaner at **\$42.50**

Keen Kutter Nail Hammer, formerly \$1.75 — **\$1.25**  
Now  
Drop Forged Nail Hammer, formerly \$1.00 — **75c**  
Now  
Hickory Hammer Handles were 20 cents each — **25c**  
Now 2 for  
6 inch Heavy T Hinges with screws were 35 cents — **25c**  
Now, a pair  
House paint, outside white formerly \$2.75, now 5 gallon kit for **\$11.50**  
Automatic Electric Toaster selling now in Chromium plate **\$7.50**  
for  
Hoover's Model 543 \$33.50 Value—Close-out **\$52.50**  
At  
BeeVacs, attachments free, \$29.75 up to **\$42.50**  
Cinderella Electric Washers—Real value — **\$37.50**  
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WAYNE, NEBR.

**L. W. (Bud) McNatt**  
**OK Hardware**

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**FOR 48 YEARS IN WAYNE!**

In 1928 L.W. McNatt purchased the Carhart Hardware business from C. E. Carhart and A.B. Carhart. Prior to this, McNatt had traveled several years for a hardware company headquartered in Lincoln.

In 1959 son Bud and JoAnne took over the management of the store at 203 Main in Wayne.



BUD McNATT



L. W. McNATT

From a 1931 Edition of The Wayne Herald

# Wayne Keeps Pace

(Wayne continued)

school since 1969, and in the high school since 1974, including the middle school. Project Predict and Prevent is a new program run by the public school system to identify the handicapped child and provide therapy for physical, mental and motor skill disability.

St. Mary's Catholic School, opened in 1953 for grades one through six, provides religious instruction and an attractively low student-teacher ratio.

Since the prediction for Wayne is that the natural gas is in critically short supply, the power plant expects to be on straight diesel fuel in the near future, buying power through NPPD and allowing them to use our plant as a booster system during peak periods.

The Wayne Herald's new offset equipment allows the printing of papers for 11 area communities other than Wayne, and the Wayne Stater, the college newspaper.

Industries are currently being shown. Wayne's new industrial site and International Steaks has bought five acres. Presently located on the industrial site are Broyhill, Inc., manufacturers of spray rigs, Terra Western Fertilizer and Marra Home Improvement Co. The National Fiberglass Corporation has announced that it will build a plant in Wayne.

The runway at Wayne's Municipal Airport was hardsurfaced in the 1960's, and plans are underway to lengthen it. All hangers are presently rented, flight instruction is available, as is a pilot to transport persons and freight nationwide. The airport authority includes Frank Prather, chairman, David Ley, Stanley Morris and Bob Reeg.

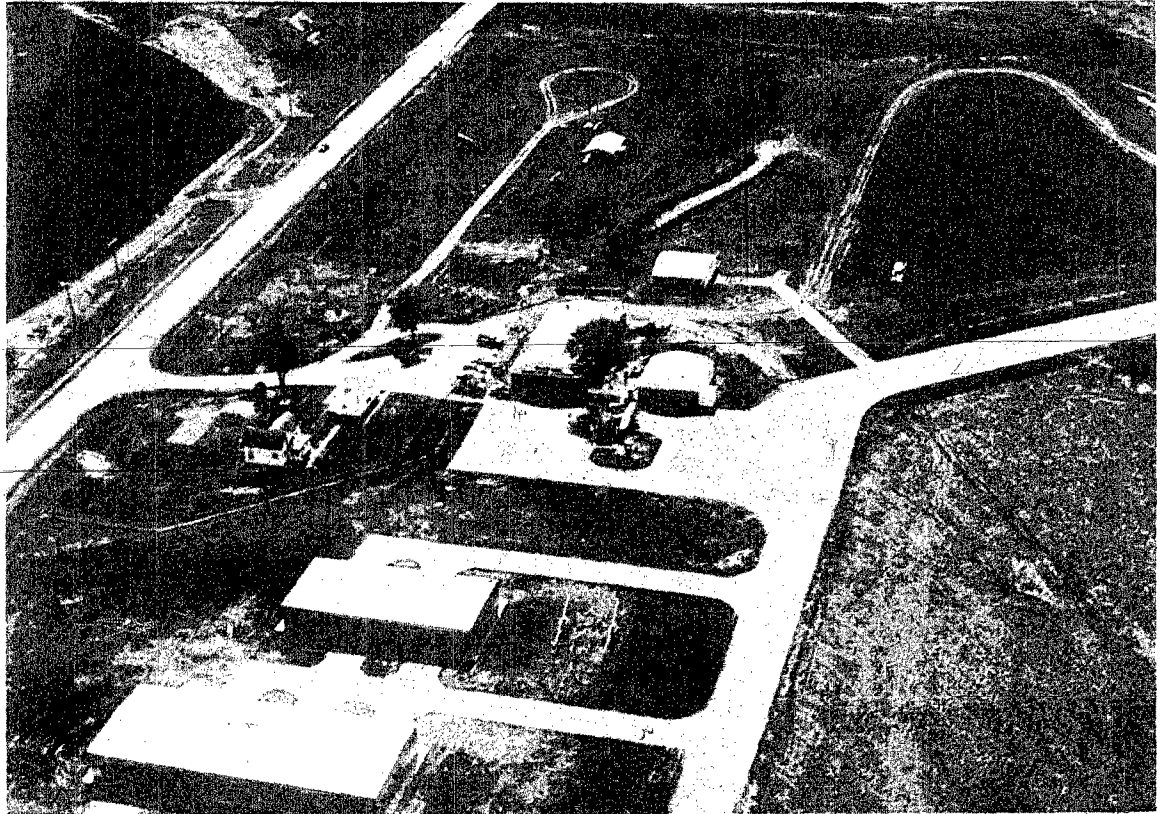
Wayne Federal Savings and Loan is planning an addition, and Columbus Building and Loan has made application to open a branch on West Seventh

street. The assets of Wayne Federal and the city's two banks as an index of the business community speak well for Wayne. Wayne Federal's total assets are \$10,688,425; State National, \$22,866,384, and First National, \$15,002,208.

Since the construction of the

new hospital, the city officers have been moved to the old hospital building. Included are the clerk's office, the police department, office of the mayor and city administrator, council chambers, and public meeting rooms. Construction is presently underway for a new Senior Citizens Center to be located in

the basement of the structure. Wayne State College has kept pace with the nation in the field of education and today offers such innovative programs as the overseas summer study tours to Scandinavia, Britain, Germany, Spain and Mexico. During the school year, students attend (Continued on following page)



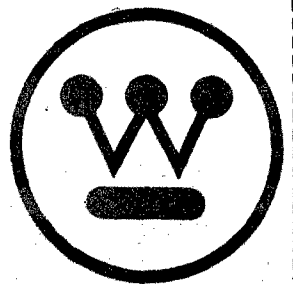
AERIAL — WAYNE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT



Present Location

## — HISTORY —

Leslie Doescher started out in the hardware business in 1949 in Dixon, Nebraska. He moved to Wayne in 1958 where he operated at the present location of Jeff's Cafe. On July 1st, 1964 he moved to 303 Main, where an important change in their merchandise lines accompanied this move. They discontinued all hardware to allow for a larger stock of appliances. The new store had a storage area in the basement and a shop which was used for repairs. Darrell Doescher, son of Leslie, has specialized in refrigeration repair for the past 18 years. They also have two trucks that are radio-equipped for repair service. In the spring of 1976, Doescher Appliance moved to their present location at 306 Main where you can still find quality sales and service and a complete selection of hunting and fishing equipment.



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Wayne, Ne.

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Since 1949

## Jeff's Cafe

OWNED BY

Buss & Irene Jeffrey

Since 1976

## Mert's Econ-o-Way

OWNED BY

Mert & Dennis Marshall

Since 1962

## Barner's Lawn Service

OWNED BY

LeRoy & Helen Barner

Since 1956

## Wayne Auto Parts

AND MACHINE SHOP

OWNED BY

Larry Lindsay — Cliff Pinkelman

Since 1969

## Andy's Pizza

OWNED BY

Andy & Marion Manes

Since 1965

## Ellis Barber Shop

OWNED BY

Loren Ellis — Darrell Barner

Since 1960

## Smitty's Auto Clinic

OWNED BY

Lawrence Smith

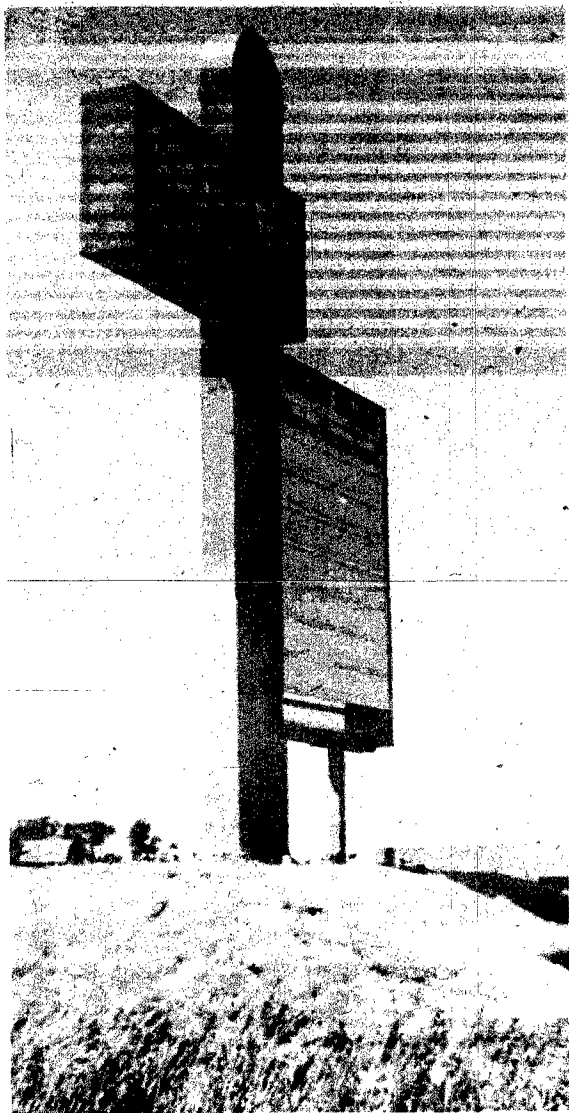
Since 1962

## Ben's Paint & Hobby

OWNED BY

Ben & Alice Ahlvers

Since 1954



## 'City Can Be Proud'

(Wayne continued)

theater in Minneapolis and New York.

Other programs of interest to the public as well as the student body include those of the Public Service Institute, which recently presented the Nebraska Governors Conference. A new baroque pipe organ in Ramsey Theater provides the best in concerts and instruction, while a variety of musical presentations and

special programs draw many to the campus.

The new Carhart Science Building features a planetarium which stages varied and current programs during the year. A new American Studies Degree program is anticipated for next fall as is a new Center for the Humanities. A computer center serves administration, faculty and students, and continuing education workshops help to

meet the needs of all Wayne.

Clearly, the college has not failed to fulfill the expectation of those first citizens who provided support in the early days of the Normal College.

Mayor Decker sees education and agriculture as the two major influences of the city. He views Wayne as big enough to have some advantages of a city, but small enough to be friendly.

"I think that the character of a city derives from its citizens who give it flavor, vision and values. The City of Wayne has good cause to be proud this Bicentennial year."



WAYNE'S NEW Industrial site, left photo, serves to attract new industries to the community. The Wayne Senior Citizens Center, above, provides an active program for the city's elderly residents.



**RUSS TIEDTKE**

In 1946 Russ Tiedtke moved to Wayne from Pilger, Nebraska. He went to work for Wayne Electric and Appliance until 1951. In 1951, Russ bought out Lester Electric Plumbing and Heating located at 108 Main. In 1959, Russ moved to 220 Main. His business grew to where he was employing 15 people. Russ was with the G.E. appliance line for 17 years.

In 1968, Russ closed out his appliance business. In 1973, he bought out Mr. Henry Kugler at 106 Main. Russ handles a complete line of Maytag and Frigidaire appliances.

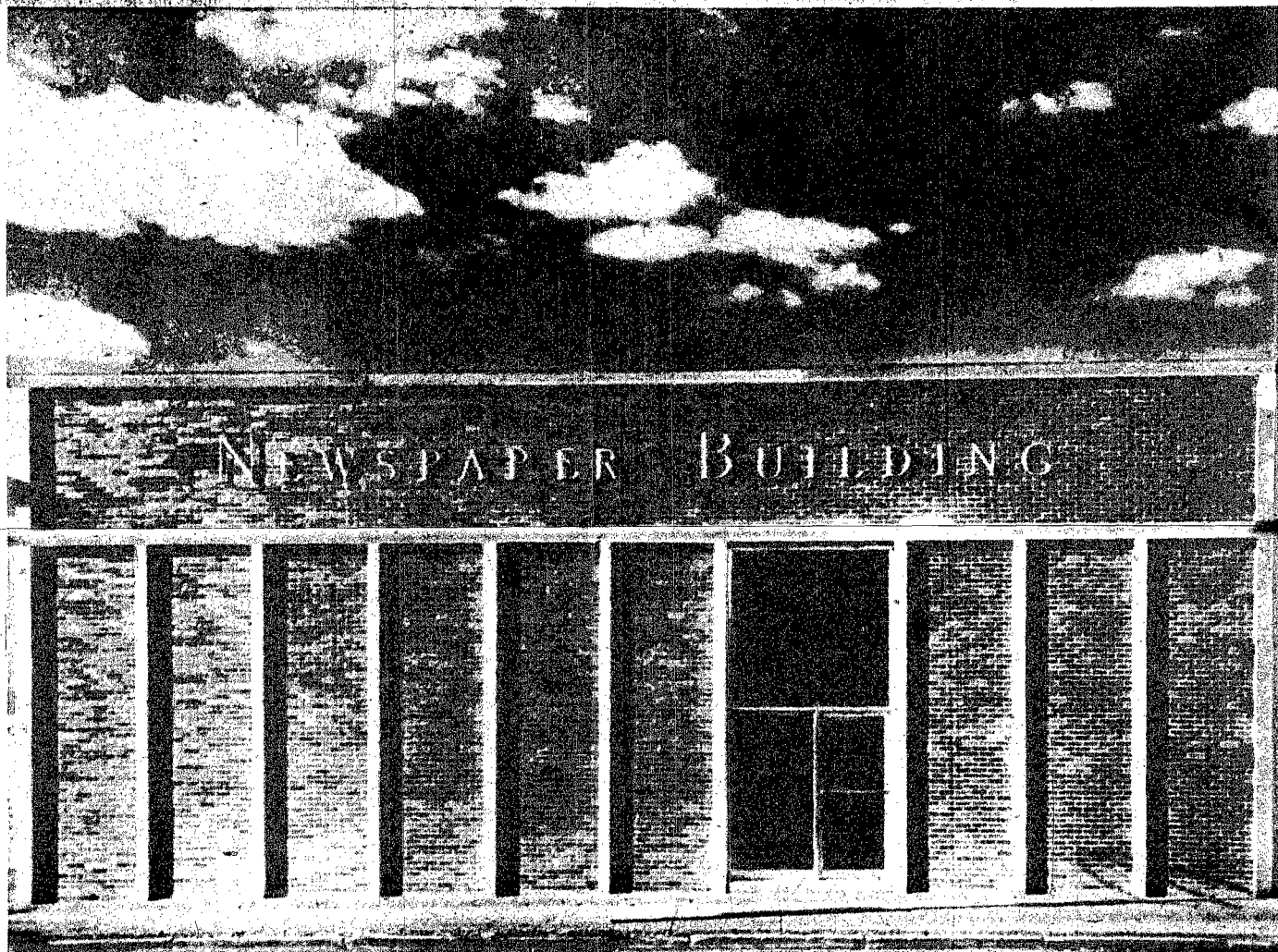
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# Herald 1976 Anniversary Marks 100 Years Service

This year of 1976, which brings the biennial milestone to the founding of our nation, also marks the 100th anniversary of the Wayne Herald.

The Herald didn't always employ nearly 50 persons, including newspaper carriers and full and part-time shop employees. It didn't always print 11 other weekly publications and the Wayne Stater, the college newspaper, in addition to numerous other circulars, or set copy on a computer.

The Wayne County Review, the ancestor to the present Wayne Herald, was started at LaPorte by C.E. Hunter and print-

ed at Ponca by William Huse for several issues. Huse also published the Journal at Ponca.

But by August of 1876, when equipment could be installed, the paper was printed and published at LaPorte. LaPorte, the original county seat, is now off the map as an organized town.

The first page of the Review, published in 1876, is reproduced in this Bicentennial souvenir edition.

The LaPorte Review was a seven-column folio. Most of the small advertising patronage came from Sioux City, Ponca, Ionia, Stanton, Wisner, and other points outside of LaPorte. The

Review was published every Saturday and its subscription rate was \$2 per year, "payable strictly in advance."

News from the outer world was infrequent in the pioneer days. A.P. Childs, an ambitious newspaper man, came to LaPorte from New York and joined Hunter in publishing the Review.

We learn that in January, 1876, Solon Bevins, county treasurer, was advertising the opening of a new general store. He also advertised 70,000 acres of choice lands for sale, and announced himself as ready to furnish abstracts and examine

titles. Hunter, who served as county clerk in addition to publishing the Review, also announced that he would furnish abstracts of titles, pay taxes for non-residents and do a general real estate business.

We further learn that railroad bonds have been voted in Dixon County 462 to 120, and in Dakota County, 486 to 95, and that the "croakers against railroad bonds have retired into their holes and pulled their holes after them" and that "the day of wealth and prosperity is dawning."

Stirring times were experienced by the struggling frontier

paper. The county printing was an important source of revenue, and it is recalled that an effort was made one fall to prevent publication of the annual delinquent tax list by "someone who surreptitiously smashed the printing press."

A copy of the Review in 1878 discloses that a letter has arrived from a gentleman in Illinois who is informed that the railroad will surely be built — (Editor's comment: "Such has been the talk for 10 years and its getting old. Give us a rest.")

We also learn that in 1878 land in Wayne, Cedar, Pierce and (Continued on following page)



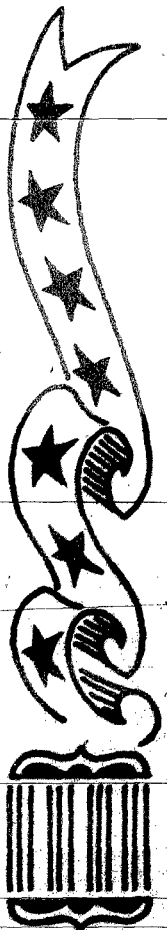
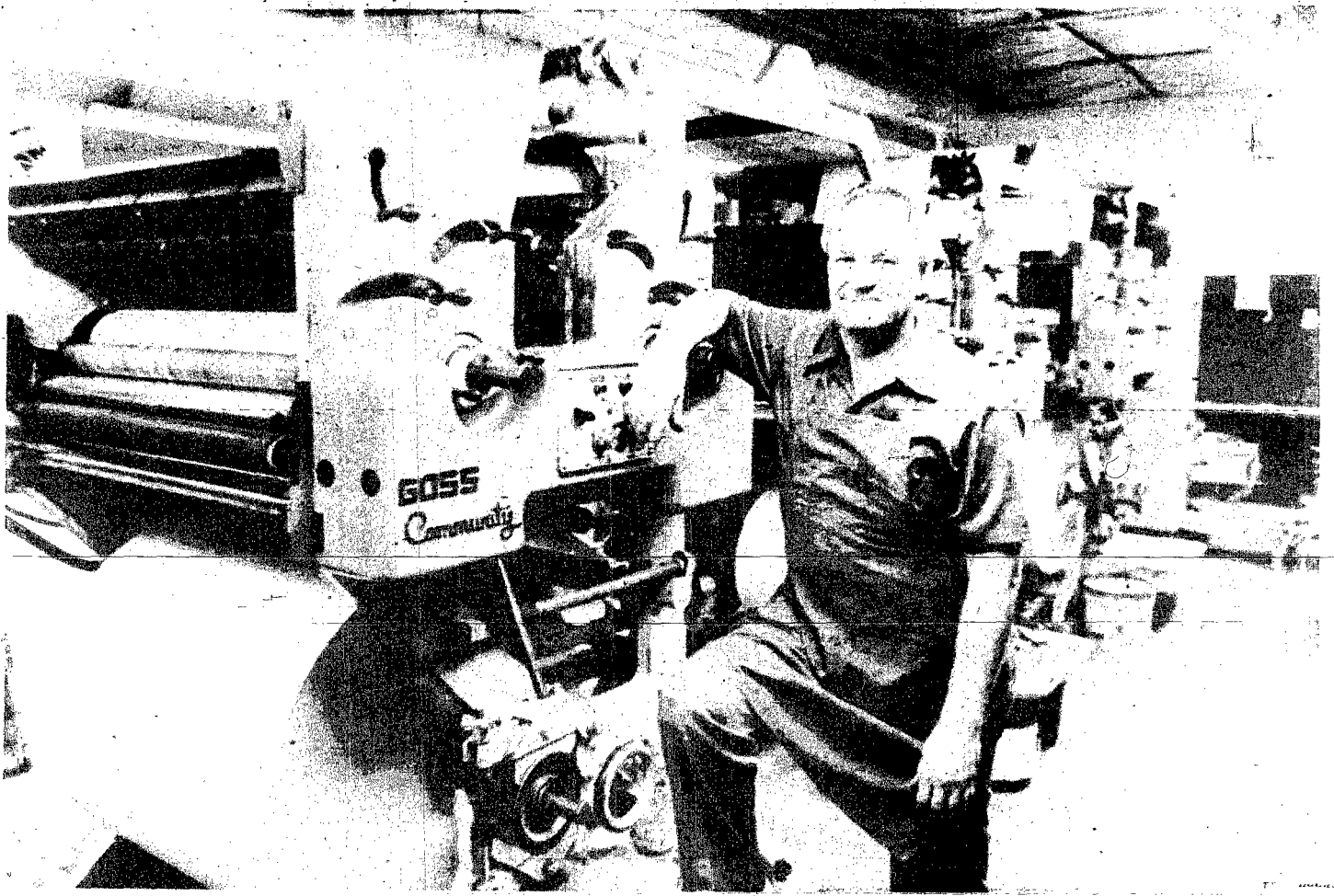
**J. ALAN CRAMER**  
PUBLISHER



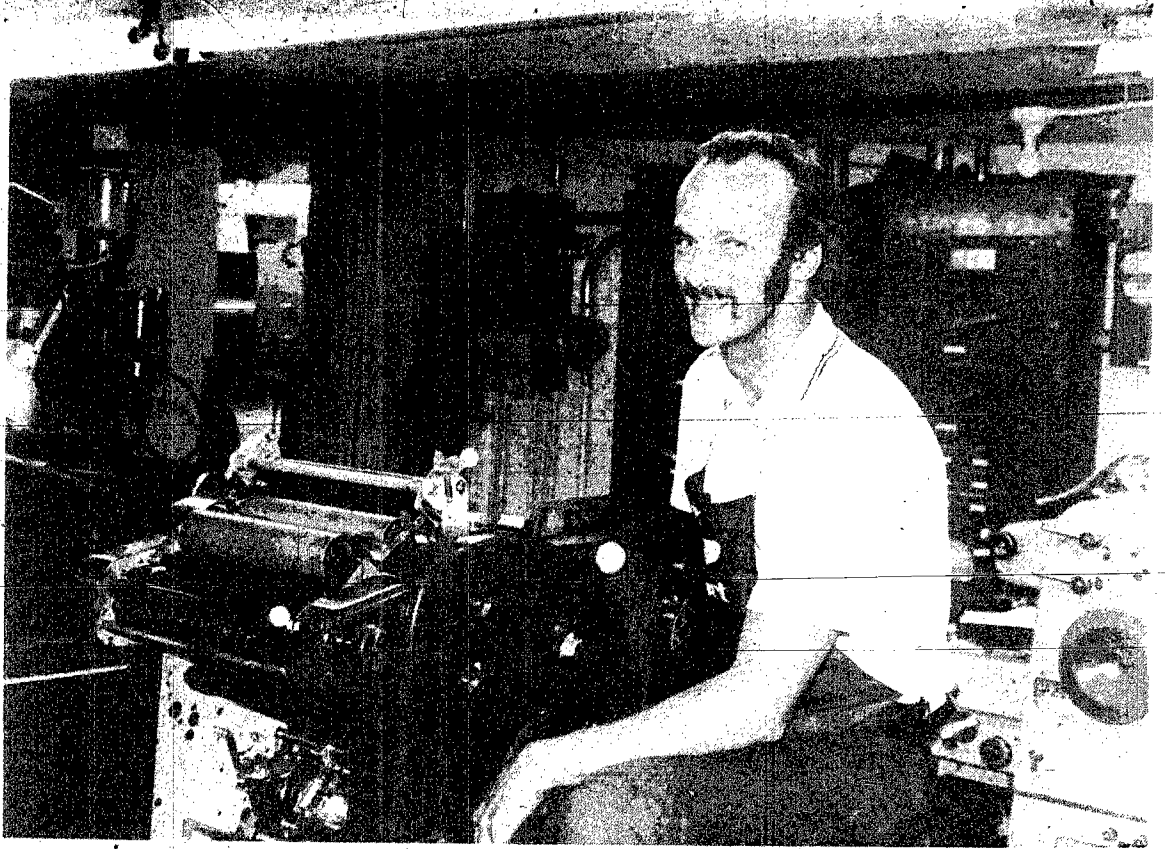
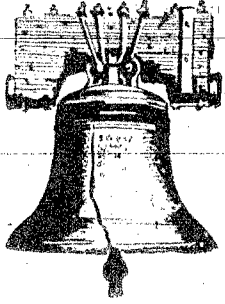
THE WAYNE HERALD, formerly located at this building at 110 Main St., made a short move in 1966 to new quarters in the present building at 114 Main St., shown above.



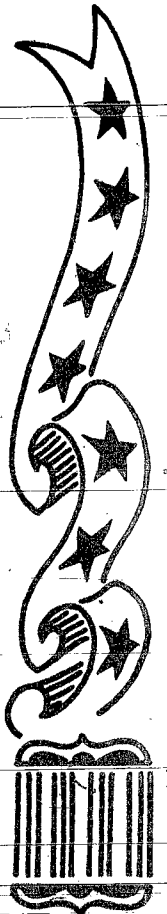
**JIM MARSH**  
BUSINESS MANAGER



**The Wayne Herald Is Happy  
To Be Celebrating Its 100th Birthday  
With The Nation's 200th!**



**THE WAYNE HERALD**, celebrating its 100th birthday this year, employs a large number of people. Included are (from upper left, clockwise) Ray Murray, shop foreman and pressman, shown here with the Goss Community offset web press, used to print the Herald and 11 other papers. Mel Baumgardner is shown with an AB Dick 360 11 x 17 inch offset press used in the commercial printing plant operation. Kathy Bressler is seated at the Compugraphic Compuwriter used to set type for both the newspaper and commercial printing operations. Business office staff includes Dan Vodvarka and Bill Carlson, advertising; Marge Hoffman and Dorothy Ayrich, accounting, and Roseann Yosten, receptionist. Warren Price, now semi-retired, has been a Herald employe for over 40 years. Production personnel include Cathy Hansen, Jane Sharer, Jill Kenny, Alyce Bargholz, Vince Jenness, Keith Habrock, Mark Cramer, Kevin Victor and Dave Diediker.





**JIM STRAYER**  
NEWS EDITOR

(Wayne Herald continued)  
Antelope Counties is being offered for sale by the B. & M. Railroad Co. for as low as \$1 to \$2 per acre for cash.

It seems that Hunter also published news releases from other papers. There are dispatches from Washington, Lincoln and New York contained in the early issues.

When the county seat was moved to Wayne in 1881, A.P. Childs loaded up the Review plant and brought it to the embryo town. C.E. Hunter retired from the firm and moved to Wakefield where he was postmaster for a number of years.

About 1883, Childs sold his newspaper to R.M. Goshorn who later disposed of a half interest to W.H. McNeal. This publication became The Wayne Herald.

Childs wasn't long without a newspaper. He established the Wayne Democrat in 1884. In 1894, W.S. Goldie bought the Wayne Democrat from Childs. Goldie continued to run the newspaper until the spring of 1911 when he sold the property to E.O. Gardner and G.A. Wade. Gardner died in March of 1929 and Wade became the sole proprietor of the Democrat.

Charles Simmons started a newspaper in Wayne, and from this venture evolved W.S. Goldie's Graphic in 1891. A few years later E. Cunningham bought the Graphic plant and inaugurated the Wayne Republican, which he later disposed of to Bert Gibson. For a considerable period three newspapers were published in Wayne.

In 1899, McNeal purchased Goshorn's interest in The Wayne Herald. McNeal sold the Herald to William and E.W. Huse in 1903. In about a year after the change in ownership of the Herald, E. Cunningham bought the Herald and Republican, thus effecting a consolidation of the two newspapers.

E.W. Huse remained with the consolidation a few years and then went to Beatrice to manage the Daily Express. Frank Bringer, J.A. Lister, Elmer Lundburg and A.J. Woodward were publishers of the Herald successively until 1910 when Huse returned and bought the plant.

When Huse took charge, the equipment was worth less than \$3,000 and the payroll ran exactly \$22 per week. Old-timers shook their heads doubtfully when plans for installing a type casting machine and other improvements were suggested. The first move in 1910 was to



**LaVON BECKMAN**  
SOCIETY EDITOR

put in a rebuilt No. 1 linotype, the first standard type casting machine in northeast Nebraska outside of Norfolk. The No. 1 eliminated so called "patent insides." A few years later, the Herald, which many regarded as situated in too small a field to justify even one machine, found the No. 1 unequal to growing requirements, and a new No. 14 linotype was installed.

Late in 1926, the Herald moved into a new building (now the veterinary office of Liska, Liska & Swerczek). In 1931, the Herald's equipment, which invoiced around \$50,000, included a Duplex printing press. The payroll, \$22 per week in 1910, had now jumped to \$300 per week.

The Herald was given a place in Casey's All American Newspaper Eleven in 1929.

In 1947, Huse relinquished the Wayne Herald to Mark Cramer. Cramer's son, J. Alan, purchased the newspaper from his father's estate in 1958, and James Marsh bought an interest in the Herald in 1969.

The Herald moved to its present location, 114 Main St., in the summer of 1966. It was at this time that a new Goss Community press was purchased and the newspaper began printing by the process of offset lithography. A single section of the newspaper, which once took two and a half hours to print, is now run off in about 13 minutes.

Newspaper carriers began delivering The Wayne Herald to subscribers in Wayne in April of 1972. Shortly thereafter, carrier service began in the communities of Carroll and Winside, and later in Concord, Wakefield and Allen.

In addition to the Herald, 11 other publications are printed each week at the Wayne plant. They include the Cedar County News, Emerson Tri County Press, Laurel Advocate, Morning Shopper, Norfolk Shopper, Pender Times, Randolph Times, Stanton Press, Wakefield Republican, Wausa-Gazette and Wisner News Chronicle. The Sun downer, a monthly farm publication, the Spotlighter, a monthly advertising circular, and the Wayne Stater, the college newspaper, are also printed, in addition to circulars for businesses throughout the country.

The latest equipment, including a computerized typesetting machine and computerized film processor, allow for greater efficiency in the printing process. The Herald installed its own



**BOB BARTLETT**  
SPORTS EDITOR

darkroom and equipment in 1974.

The Herald is an award winning member of the Nebraska Press Association and National Newspaper Association. This year, the paper won nine awards in the Nebraska Better Newspaper contests. The Wayne Herald has won over 50 state and national awards since 1960.

Shortly after the move to the new building, the Herald went from a weekly to a semi weekly publication. Once printing only on Thursday, the Herald now prints a Monday edition also.

The Wayne Herald has grown from a small country newspaper into a business of manufacturing status. The business pays about \$140,000 in salaries each year. The plant and equipment replacement value is about \$250,000.

## MERCHANT OIL CO.

### 1920 Location



### Present Location



**ROBERT MERCHANT**

### — History —

It was in 1919 after 13 years of blacksmithing on the corner of 1st and Pearl, E. H. Merchant decided to change with the times, from the horse shoeing to the gasoline business for the horseless carriage. In 1920 E.H. Merchant and B.F. Strahan formed a partnership (Merchant & Strahan) and entered the oil business. The location of the blacksmith shop was ideal; as it was on the highway from Wayne to points west known as the Grainland Road. Lubricating oils, axle grease, kerosene, and gasoline were the main products that were sold. In 1927 the partners signed a contract with Mid-Continent Petroleum (DX) as jobbers. Forty-nine years later Merchant Oil is still jobbing the same products, known now as Sun Oil.

In October, 1938 — the close of the depression years — E. H. Merchant purchased B. F. Strahan's interest in the business and it was then known as the E. H. Merchant Oil Co. Earl was joined by his son, Bob in 1946. The business was changed in 1955 to Merchant Oil Co., Inc. In 1966 Bob built a service station located at 7th and Main handling the same products as his station on West First Street. This was due to the change in highway traffic. Bob also has a sub-jobber in Hoskins, Gerald Bruggeman. In the change with time Merchant Oil Co. continued with a full line of farm products on the farm tire service, a complete one stop service stations.





## Little White Schools Museum

The little white schoolhouse, fast becoming a thing of the past, is preserved at Wayne State College.

In 1966, a rural school was moved to the Wayne State campus to become a museum, dramatizing the change in education. The schoolhouse was originally located one and a half miles south of Wakefield.

Trustees of the Wayne State Foundation purchased and restored the one-room structure, now located across from Rice Auditorium, eight years ago.

It was decided that the rural school should be dedicated to Miss Mamie McCorkindale, who was a Wayne State faculty member for 29 years. Miss McCorkindale headed a program that prepared teachers for rural school teaching.

On July 2, 1966, the school was dedicated and officially named The Mamie McCorkindale Rural School Museum.

The schoolhouse has been restored with old-style single and double desks, a potbellied stove, and many textbooks and wall maps of different types.

It also contains a stereopticon with slides, a wafer jar and dipper, recitation benches, globes, flash cards, kerosene lamps, lunch pails, a recess bell, and an old foot pedal reed organ.

Donations, dating back to the late 1800's, have come from all over the United States.

The rural school was built in 1880. The teacher was paid a salary of \$30 a month, for nine months. Total expenditures for one year ranged from \$321 to \$420.

**THIS WAS** the scene in July of 1966 when Wayne State College dedicated the Mamie McCorkindale School Museum. Children and teacher, dressed in clothes of the early 1900's, brought old days to life.

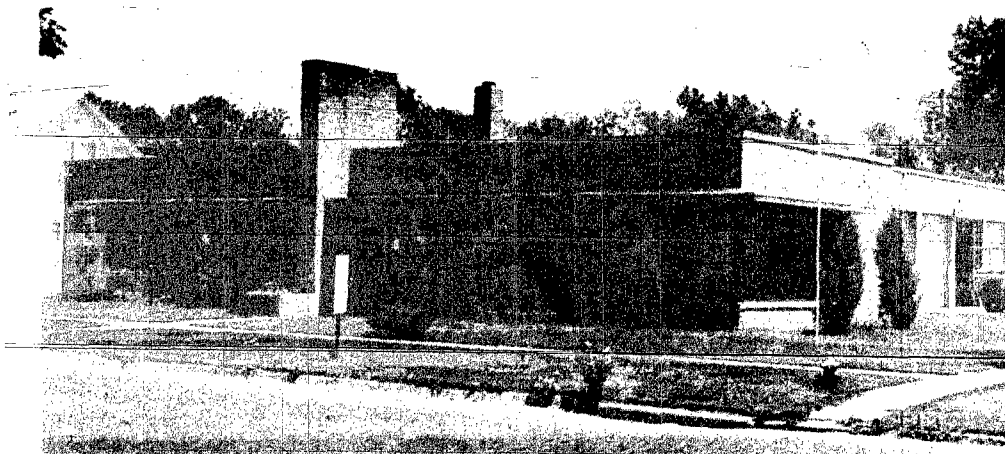
## WAYNE COUNTY PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

*Serving Wayne & Pierce Counties*

Wayne County Public Power district began on November 17, 1939 when the first farm home was lighted by electricity furnished by W.C.P.P.D. Prior to that date the majority of rural homes were lighted by kerosene lamps and farmers did their evening chores with the aid of kerosene lanterns. By February 1940, 224 farmsteads were receiving electric service from Wayne. In 1948 Wayne County Public Power district moved into its present headquarters building in Wayne. In 1964 the power district was serving 2375 customers. In 1959 Cal Comstock was appointed manager and has served in this capacity ever since. Since 1964 the Wayne County Public Power district has grown 100 per cent. An example is one consumer in 1964 went from 700 kilowatts per month useage to 1400 kilowatts today. Since 1964 to 1976 W.C.P.P.D. has added over one million dollars in new plant facilities. In 1975 the total gross revenue had exceeded one million dollars for the first time.



**CAL COMSTOCK**



# Horses Part of Koll's Life



Forty years ago Herman Koll started raising purebred Belgian horses because he "loved 'em." That feeling hasn't changed, in fact, the 74-year-old Winside native would gladly give up his job of farming just to raise the one-ton animals.

Although much of his 160 acres located two miles south and a mile and a half west of Winside is used as pasture land for his seven Belgian horses, Koll admitted "If I were a bit younger, I'd raise even more of 'em."

Koll farms about 18 acres of oats and 23 acres of corn, most of which he sells or stores for food. He doesn't use much of the

grain for the seven head because they feed on pasture land, during the summer and, if the weather is good enough, feed on the field stocks during the winter.

Koll didn't always raise Belgian horses. He started raising mules and grade horses, like his father, Fred, raised and sold.

Koll said he just got tired of raising mules because they're too stubborn. He bought his first Belgian horses from Ma Scherer of Pilger about 35 to 40 years ago at a cost of about \$750.

The Oakdale Farceus' bred mares were the best on the (Continued on following page)



**KOLL ADMITS** that his seven head of Belgian horses are a mighty friendly bunch of animals, even to strangers. At first they're a little shy, but they soon get to know you, he added.

## KING'S CARPETS

PHONE 375-2890

104 MAIN STREET



Larry King started his carpet business in Wayne in 1964 at 319 Main. Larry added drapes and drapery hardware along with his carpet lines in 1964. In 1970 he moved to his present location at 104 Main.



# Horses --

(Horses continued)

market, he quipped. Today, the prices of such horses could range anywhere from \$3,000 and up.

Koll has four mares and three colts on his farm, but he quickly pointed out, "I'm not going to sell them."

The tall, husky farmer related a lesson he learned last year about selling his mares. A buyer from Oregon stopped by the Koll farm to look at four of his stock. Koll thought he could get rid of the buyer by setting the price too high — close to \$1,200. But the price didn't bother the buyer. He put his money down and made the agreement.

Koll noted that the price for purebred Belgian horses today is "just plum crazy. I don't dare name a price to anyone. They'll put the money down and I'll be out of a horse."

The four mares on the Koll farm aren't just for breeding and showing. Herman uses them in the field to plant and cultivate.

He'd rather use the Belgian in the field rather than a tractor because "after a few rows they learn to follow the row. A tractor has to be operated and watched all the time, otherwise the damn thing will run away from you," he smiled.

Koll noted that the horses are cheaper to operate than a tractor and also allows him more leisure time to look around while he's riding.

Koll has sold his animals to buyers in Canada, Iowa and Wisconsin as well as Oregon. He said he doesn't do any advertising, except to some friends around the area who talk about his prize-winning herd.

To pick some of the best breeds, Koll has a sharp eye for

some of the horses' features, which he considers most important. Number one on his list is "good coupling". That is, the ribs on the horse are short. Another big feature is good feet.

"If you don't have a horse with good feet, he ain't worth nothin'."

Koll's travels to sales around the midwest have taken him to one of the biggest selling houses in Waverly, Ia. There he saw one of his former mares, which he sold the prior year, sell for \$8,400.

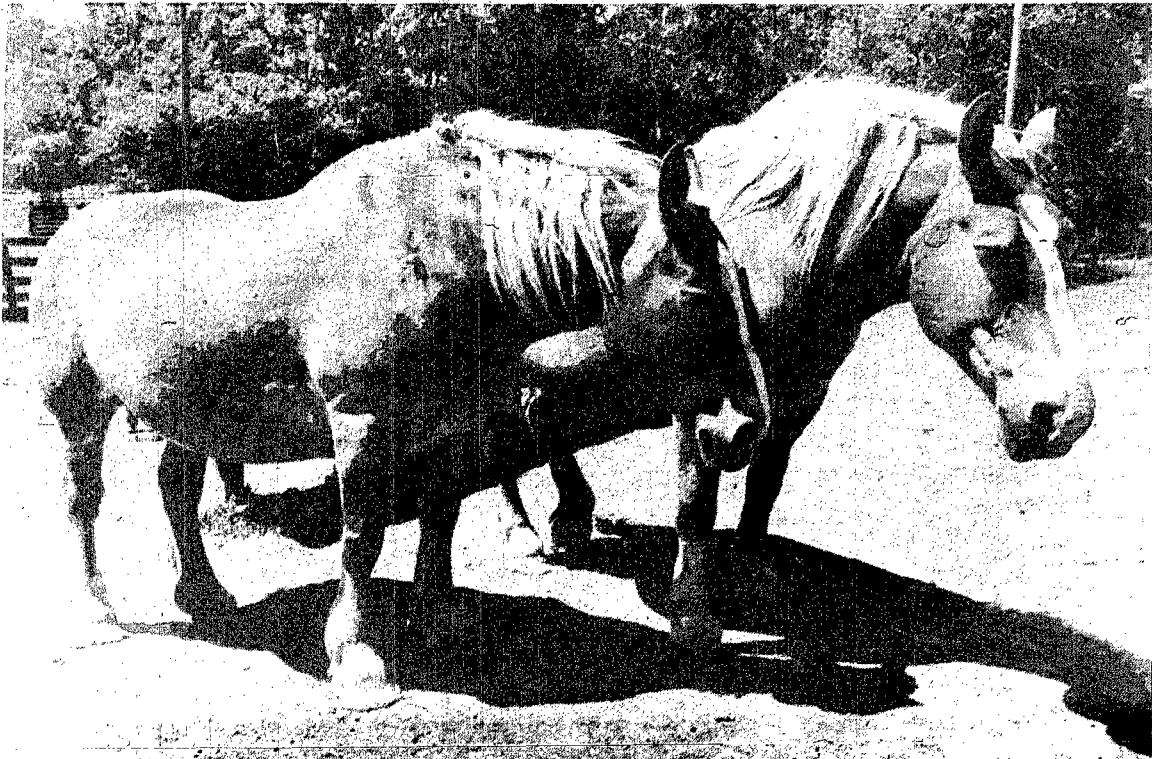
Koll has another reason to be

proud of his horses. Over in another part of Iowa, two of his former equine friends are members of a 40-horse team which an Iowa man uses in parades and fairs around Iowa and other states.

Koll is undecided if he'll show his horses in Wayne's Bicentennial parade on July 3. If so, viewers should be in for a real

treat watching the husky animals march down Main Street.

A member of the Belgian Draft Horse Association for 45 years and a member of the Nebraska Belgian Breeders' Association, Koll noted that he'll continue raising the horses as long as he's alive. "As long as I'm here, those poor horses are going to stay here."



EACH HORSE weighs about one ton when they reach maturity after three years. Surprisingly, they don't require

much food outside of the pasture grass they feed on, Koll noted.

## GEM CAFE

WAYNE'S OLDEST & FINEST CAFE

Serving You at First & Main For the Past 27 Years — Frank & Nori Woehler

1949



1976



# Church Spans 95 Years

A span of 95 years has seen the first Presbyterian Church congregation in Wayne grow from the original 11 charter members to 290.

During that period the church has been expanded from a small frame structure used both for services and school to a spacious modern edifice that provides for the church religious services and for active organizations.

The Rev. G. M. Lodge of Shelby, Ia., read an article and decided to visit the new settlement of Wayne in 1881. He was accompanied by J.S. Love of

Avoca, Ia. No religious services had been held in the new settlement and Rev. Lodge made arrangements for one. He conducted the first services in Wayne on Sept. 18, 1881, in the unfinished business home of J.L. Merriam.

In December of 1881, Rev. Lodge visited Wayne again to conduct services in the new town, when the population was about 100. A group interested in having a Presbyterian congregation followed Rev. Lodge's suggestion and met at the unfinished real estate and banking house of J.T. Bressler and D.C.

Patterson on Dec. 21, 1881, when the congregation organized with 11 charter members.

The Rev. George L. Little, then synodical missionary, came from Omaha to assist with details of the new church association.

Church services were conducted once a month in the spring of 1882 in the chapel of the Lutheran Church. The pulpit was filled Feb. 12 by the Rev. R. L. Wheeler of Ponca, and March 17 by the Rev. Warner of Hooper.

The congregation arranged with Rev. Lodge to serve the

new church group and he preached his first sermon April 2, 1882. Rev. Lodge was also named supply pastor for Wakefield Presbyterians and alternated time with the Lutherans.

By the summer of 1882, the congregation realized the need for a church building. The frame edifice was to cost \$1200, and on Jan. 14, 1883, the church was dedicated.

Because the church building was used for school purposes, it was furnished with desks which were used for seating the congregation on Sunday. In 1885, a new school was built and the interior of the church was renovated.

On March 3, 1885, a call was extended to Rev. G. M. Lodge and application was made for aid from the Sustenance Dept. of the Board of Home Missions. Rev. Lodge was installed April 26, 1885 and served until April 1,

1887. During his pastorate the membership grew from 11 to 141.

The congregation was without a pastor during the summer of 1887. In August, a call was extended to Rev. F. P. Baker who had been pastor of a Dutch Reformed Church at Marshfield, Wis. During his pastorate, which lasted until August of 1891, a total of 107 were added to the membership; a manse was purchased at a cost of \$1800, and the church became self-supporting for the first time.

From August of 1891, when Rev. Baker resigned, until Feb. 21, 1892, the pulpit was filled with supply pastors. On that day, the Rev. A. F. Ernst of McCormick Seminary, Chicago, was extended a call and was installed on June 8, 1892. His yearly salary was set at \$800 and he was provided two rooms. He preached his farewell sermon on April 21, 1895.

Serving after Pastor Ernst were the Rev. E. Van Dyke Wight, who was installed Oct. of 1895 and served until 1897, and the Rev. D. C. Montgomery, who served from 1898 to 1901.

Rev. Wight was promised \$800 a year and \$1000 if possible, and he was provided the manse. The congregation now had 224 members.

On July 11, 1898, during Rev. Montgomery's pastorate, it was voted to build a new church at a cost of \$12,000.

The congregation was served by the Rev. Peter Birrel from 1902 to 1904. He was followed by the Rev. Thomas Osborne, who served from 1904 to 1909. A new manse was built during his stay at a cost of \$4800.

During the four-year pastorate (Continued on following page)



UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



REV. ROBERT HAAS

## — HISTORY —

*The Gamble Store was started in Wayne in 1929 at its present location. In 1943, it was enlarged both upstairs and down. Ed Meese was the manager at that time. The store then carried Ladies' & Men's ready-to-wear, Shoes, Hardware and Furniture. The store employed 8 full-time employees. Frank Thielman was the general contractor & builder. Since then it has been remodeled once again in the Fifties. Larry Hintz is the present manager recently coming from Poplar Bluff, Missouri where he was Assistant Manager.*



LARRY HINTZ  
Manager



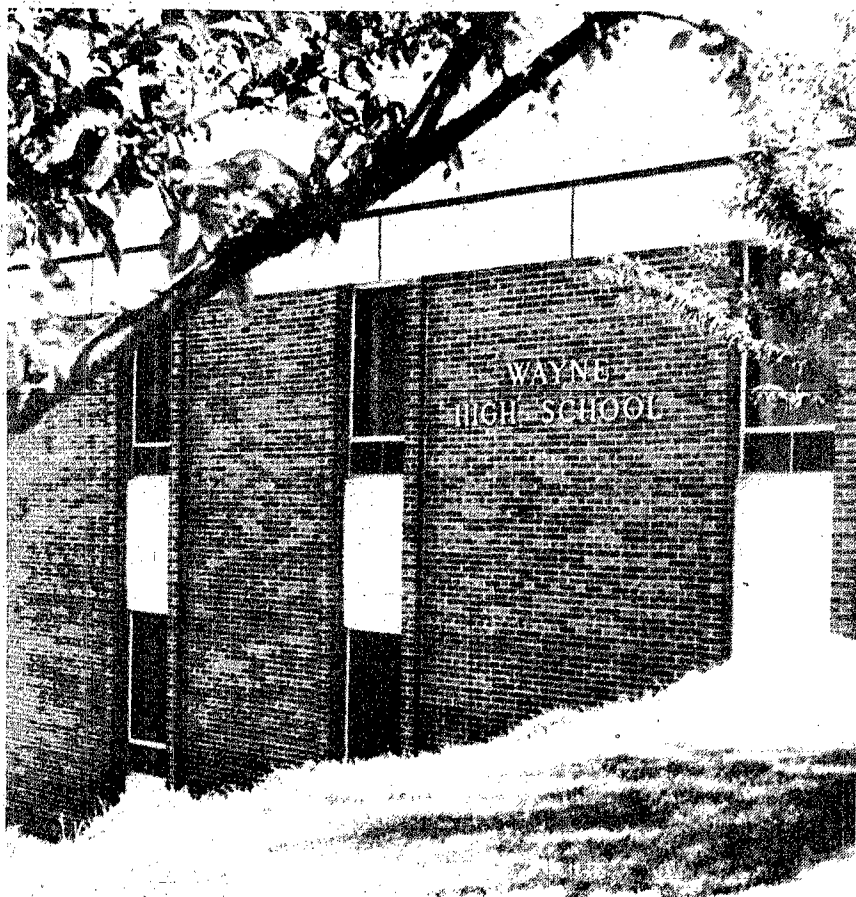
# Quality of Education High on Voters' List

Improving the quality of education, reducing the costs to educate and decreasing traveling for youngsters were some of the primary reasons educators and parents voted in favor of consolidating the 88 school districts which once flourished in Wayne County.

Today there are 17 Class I or rural schools, two Class III or

high schools and two parochial grade schools. The high schools are located in Wayne and Win-side and the parochial schools are in Wayne and Hoskins.

The latest consolidation took place in the fall of 1975 when six school districts merged to form District 57, about four miles south of Wayne. That district (Continued on following page)



WAYNE-CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL

## Presbyterian Church

(Church continued)

of the Rev. Alexander Corkey, D.D., he wrote a book, entitled "The Victory of Allen Rutledge."

The Rev. S. Xenophon Cross came to the Wayne church in 1915 and served until 1918. The Rev. John Beard, who had been a chaplain in the Army, came to the church in 1919 and was here until 1921.

The longest term of service from the organization of the church to 1943 was that of the Rev. Fenton C. Jones, who came in 1921 and stayed until 1929.

In 1925, the church was remodeled and enlarged at a cost of about \$20,000. The new dining room and kitchen was equipped with modern conveniences, and the heating plant was rebuilt.

The Rev. P.A. Davies was the 12th minister to serve. He came in 1930 and was here until 1935. The minister was chairman of the observance of the 50th anniversary of the congregation. The Rev. Wilbur F. Dierking served from 1935 to 1942.

A young peoples choir was organized in 1940 and the committee on evangelism was established.

Dr. Oliver B. Proefft came to serve in 1943. The chancel was refinished, the choir loft remodeled, and a new pipe organ installed, all at a cost of about \$12,000.

Vacation Bible School was instituted in 1944 and the Men's Council was formed in 1948.

The 70th anniversary of the church was observed June 22, 1952, when the new organ was dedicated.

The Ladies Aid was organized 1883, with five charter members. The Ladies' Missionary Society was organized April 9, 1885, with 14 charter members.

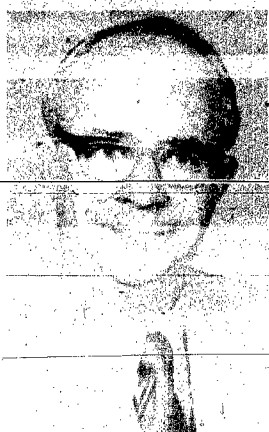
Pastors who have served the Presbyterian Church since Dr. Proefft, are Rev. John Voth, 1963 to 1967; Rev. C. Paul Russell, 1968 to 1971 and Rev. Robert Haas, who has served from 1972 to the present.

It was in 1972 that the church underwent extensive remodeling costing nearly \$70,000. The sanctuary was refurbished, and the church received new carpeting, electrical wiring and a new heating system. Church school rooms were redone to provide more education space.

## Pierson Insurance Agency

111 West 3rd St.

Phone: 375-2696



DEAN PIERSON



### — HISTORY —

Dean Pierson started in the insurance business in 1949 with Northwestern Mutual Life. In 1953, he started selling Fire and Casualty Insurance. Dean purchased the Martin Ringer Agency at its present location in 1955.

This is an all line insurance company. In 1966 he completely remodeled the whole inside of his building.

Pierson Ins. serves the complete Northeastern Nebraska area and has a staff of 7 salesmen.



**ROY CORYELL**  
Owner

**BILL CORYELL**  
Founder

## CORYELL AUTO CO.

*1/2 Mile West of Wayne on Hwy. 35*

### — HISTORY —

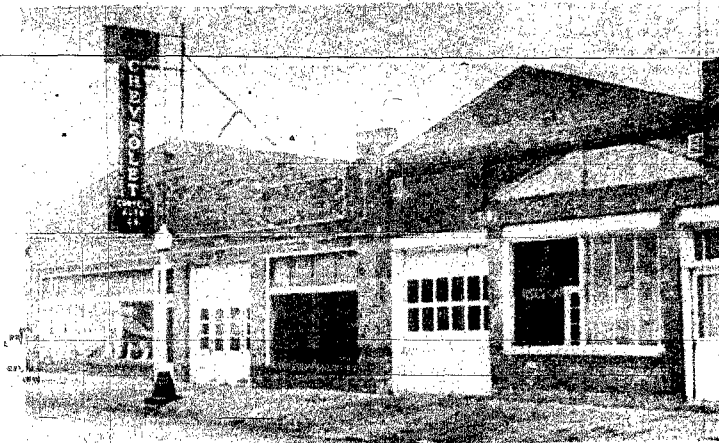
W.C. Coryell after being in the service repair business in Wayne since 1920 and having his shop completely burn down, signed a contract with Chevrolet in 1927. He succeeded the M & K Chevrolet Co. in Wayne and was located on south Main. In the early 1930's he moved to East 2nd Street, a former black smith shop.

In 1933, Bill added the Oldsmobile line to his products and also in the early forties was the Altes Chalmers dealer in the Wayne area, later phasing out the farm line.

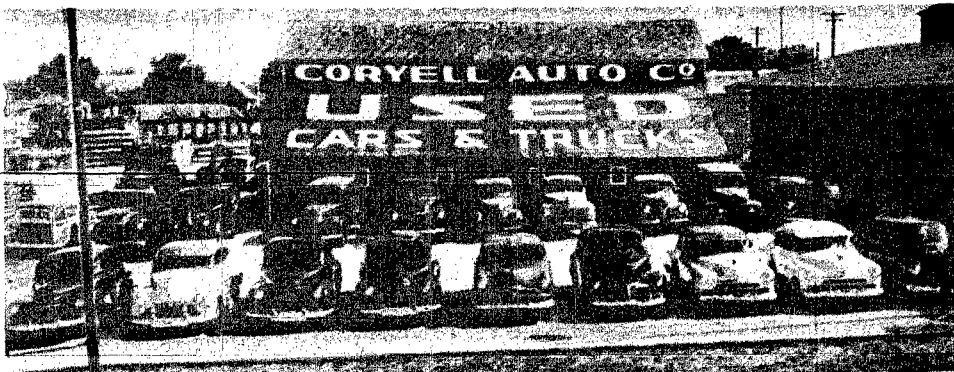
In 1944, Roy Coryell, joined his father in the business after college and a tour in the armed forces.

Roy became the owner after his father retired. In Nov., 1974, Roy built a new ultra modern facility just west of Wayne on Highway 35.

### OLD DEALERSHIP



### USED CAR LOT



### NEW FACILITY



## Consolidation Helps to Improve Education in Wayne County

(Education continued) Includes grades one through eight.

Perhaps one of the biggest mergers of school districts in the county happened in June of 1961 when 12 districts combined to form District 95R, known as Winside High and elementary schools.

The Winside district originally was called District 39 before it merged with Districts 11, 16, 21, 24, 28, 29, 31, 35, 53, 63 and 79.

In June of 1958 districts in Wayne and Carroll combined to form District 17.

A brief history of the two high schools:

### Wayne-Carroll High School

Wayne city school, one of the outstanding educational institutions of its size in this section of Nebraska, started in 1881 when Wayne was located on the railroad line.

A son of Rev. Mr. Schneur, who lived a half mile south of Wayne and who served the Lutheran church, taught the first term of school in Wayne in a building on Logan Street. Mrs. Weatherby taught two terms in a building on Main Street. The Tracy and Mears children comprised the first enrollments.

School was moved to the Baptist Church, then a block east of Main. Later it was moved to rooms in the Presbyterian Church.

In 1884 bonds amounting to \$5,000 were issued for construction of a school building in Wayne. Dr. R.B. Crawford and others wanted the new building located in the block east of the courthouse. A new addition of town lots, just laid out by Taylor and Wachob west of the present site of the school, had some

influence in locating the block for the building.

Prior to 1959, when West Elementary School was officially opened, the Middle School building housed Wayne High School and elementary grade school. At that time Wayne also had another high school and elemen-

tary grades located on Wayne State College campus. They were referred to as Campus (Hahn) High School and Campus Training School.

From 1964 to 1967 the public school system operated elementary grades on the campus. In the fall of 1967, the new high school was opened and the former high school was converted into the present Middle School.

In 1970 the Wayne public school system received AA accreditation.

### Winside High School

School District 39, known today as Winside High and elementary schools, was formed in August of 1885.

At that time the school house was located one mile west and one south of Winside on the same site as District 79. The house was about 14 by 20 feet, large enough to take care of the average rural community. Teachers from 1985 to 89 were Letta Williams, Edward Neilan, Eva Meyers, A.B. Cherry and

### Grace McMakin.

District 39 was later moved to Winside following a petition in March of 1889 when people of the district wanted to change the location of the site to Winside.

The district at that time had on hand just about \$250 or about half the amount needed to buy a site for the proposed new school. After it was learned that the town could be bonded for \$500, Winside residents borrowed on their own notes in order to build

(Continued on following page)



WAYNE MIDDLE SCHOOL

# BILL'S

Owned and Operated Independently by Lueders, Inc.



Bill Lueders started in the grocery business in 1931. He started working for Walt Priest and the U & I grocery in Wayne. In 1935 he went to work for R.C. Larson in their grocery department until they closed the grocery line in 1946. Bill then went to work for Vern Thomsen who owned the Quality Market in Wayne. In 1949 Bill started his own store located where the State National Drive-In Bank is now located. He sold the store in 1954 and in 1957 moved back to Wayne and bought the same grocery store moving it one building west. In 1958 he purchased the City Grocery from Fritz Lueders. It had a 23½' wide and 65' deep sales area and is now the Wayne Book & Office Supply building. In 1968 his son Bill Jr. joined his dad in the grocery business after working three years in Baker's Supermarkets of Omaha. In 1974 Bill and Bill Jr. built a new store at their present location which is 80' x 100' and they now employ a 25 full and part time staff.



# These Wayne Merchants Say HAPPY BIRTHDAY USA



## **Shrader - Allen Hatchery**

OWNED BY

George Shrader — Bob Allen

Since 1962

## **Wayne Phillips '66'**

OWNED BY

Ed & John Grashorn

Since 1964

## **Morris Machine Shop**

OWNED BY

Stan Morris

Since 1948

## **Allied Lumber & Supply**

See Bob, John or Dallas

Since 1974

## **Koplin Auto Supply**

OWNED BY

Paul & Gloria Koplin

Since 1962

## **Blake Studio**

OWNED BY

Charlotte Blake

Since 1960

## **Dier's Supply**

OWNED BY

Tracy & Bob Diers — Jerry Eurek, Mgr.

Since 1971

## **Fat Kat Drive In**

OWNED BY

Myron & Louise Jenness

Since 1972

## **Carl's Conoco**

OWNED BY

Carl Haas

Since 1947

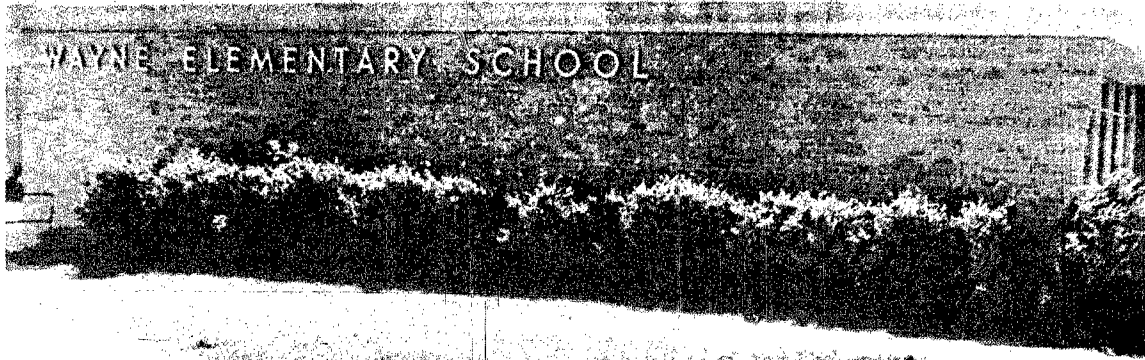
## **Bob's Cleaning Service**

OWNED BY

Bob & Eva Nelson

Since 1961





WEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**Quality —**

(Education continued)

the two-story building. In the fall of 1890 classes were moved from businesses in the downtown area to the new building. Two years later another addition was added to the school, but it was used a few years only for storage and literary societies.

In a book on the History of Winside, the first principal of Winside public schools, Harvey E. Mason of Meadow Grove, wrote: "I went to Winside in the fall of 1893, organizing the public schools as a high school with a definite course of study, the first class graduating in 1895. Miss Kneble taught the primary, Mrs. Hte Lowery, the intermediate and I had the upper grades. As I recall, the old two-room school building had been increased by an addition in 1892, only the lower room being finished and put in use that fall. Trees were set around the school block in the spring of 1894."

On March 20, 1913, a petition was circulated in town to build a west wing to what was the old high school. In July of that year a Columbus contractor started to build the new addition. It was completed by the first of the new year.

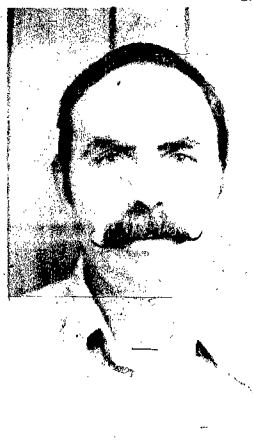
**Consolidation  
Helps to  
Improve  
Education  
in  
Wayne County**



**KEN LISKA**



**DAVE SWERCZEK**



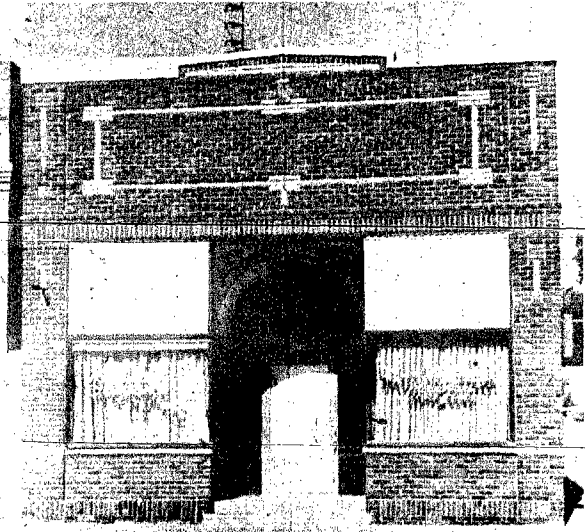
**J. J. LISKA**

**Liska  
Liska &  
Swerczek**

**Phone 375-2933**

**— HISTORY —**

*Jay and Ken Liska opened their veterinarian business in Wayne on January 1969. Jay and Ken both received their DVM degree from Iowa State University. As business grew Dave Swerczek joined their business as a partner in October 1973. Dave received his DVM degree from Kansas State University. Their clinic is located at 110 Main in Wayne.*



# WAYNE GRAIN & FEED



**CLARENCE BECK**



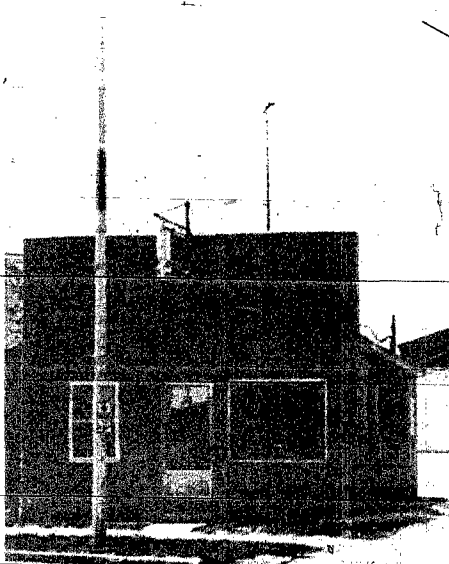
**DEAN SCHRAM**  
Manager



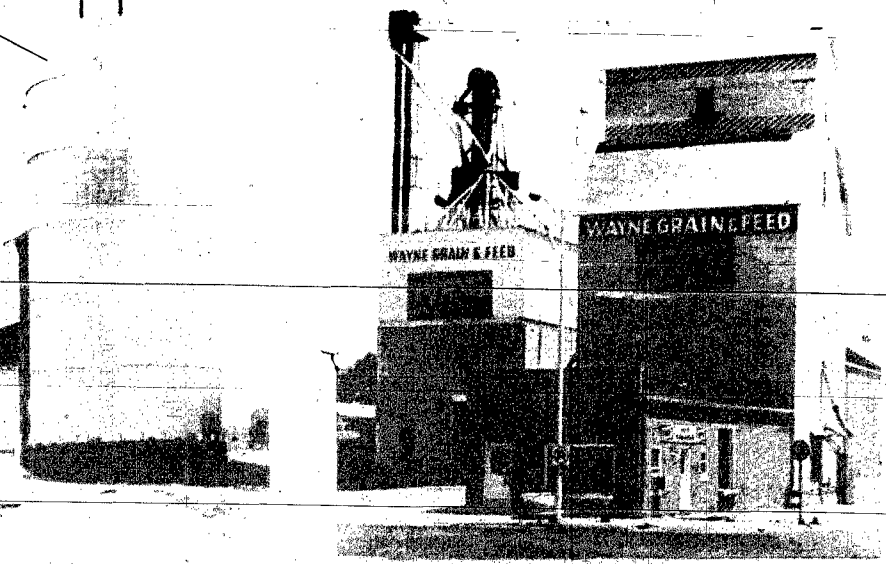
**FRED GILDERSLEEVE**

## — HISTORY —

*In 1946, Fred Gildersleeve was manager of the Door Feed Mill in Wayne. In 1948, Fred and Clarence Beck purchased the business from Mr. Door. It has remained at it's same location. In 1948, their business consisted of selling bagged feel - grain - fertilizer and seed. It was then that you could only buy fertilizer in 100 pound sacks, later in 80 pound sacks, then either in 50 pound bags or bulk. Fred and Clarence were the second grain & feed store to sell Amonia Anhydrous Fertilizer in Nebraska, this was in 1951 when fertilizer was rationed out to "10 acres per quarter section". In 1957 Dean Schram joined Wayne Grain & Feed as their bookkeeper and now is presently overall manager. In 1968, they built their present feed mill. In 1971, they purchased Rohrke Elevator, located at 116 South Main, and they built an office. They now maintain both offices for complete farm service.*



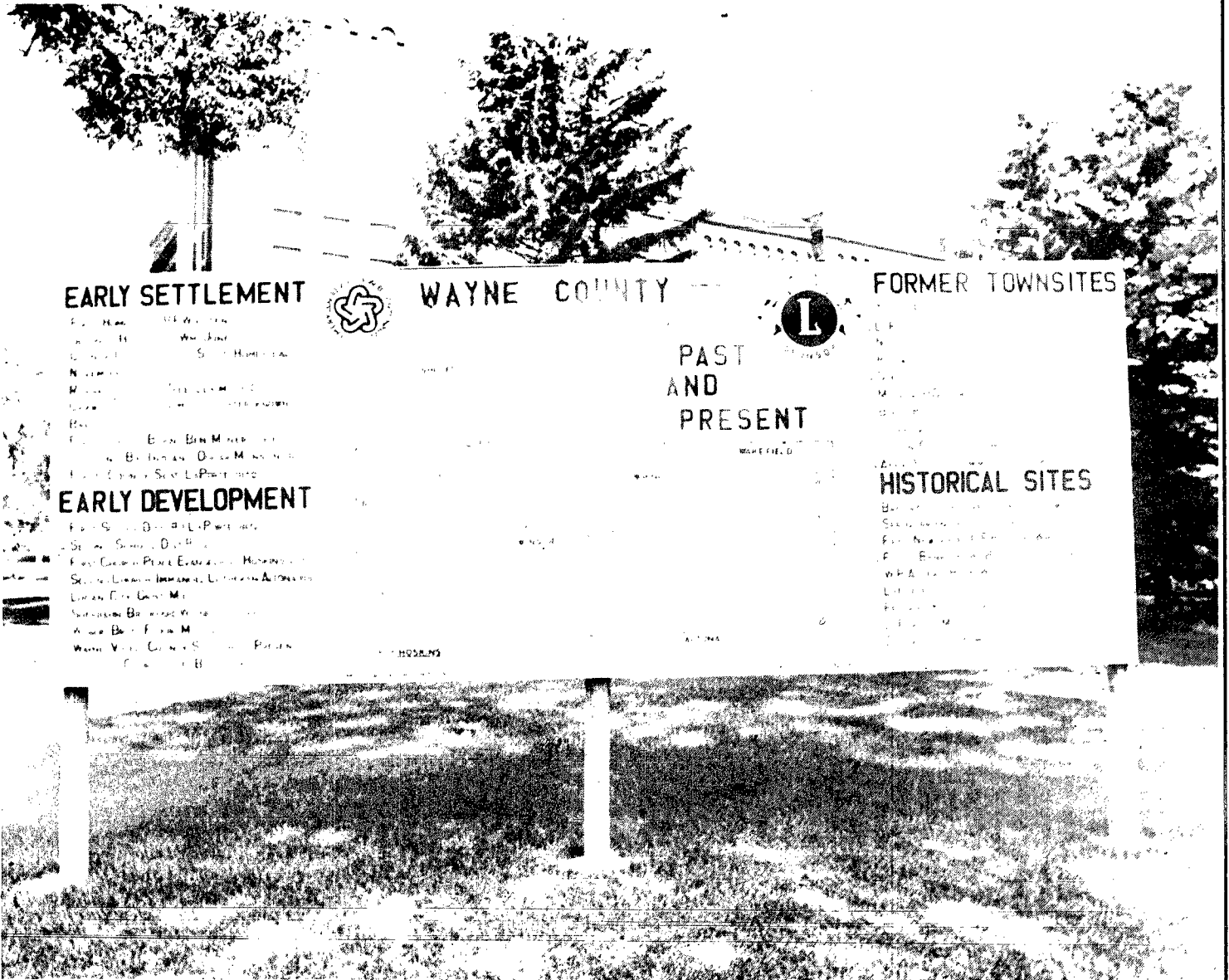
**116 S. Main**



**200 Logan**

# Historical Map

(Located On the Wayne County Courthouse Lawn)



## A Guide to Sites

## Of Historical Importance

## In Wayne County